amishnews.com

AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

Celebrating 22 Years! · July 2011 · FREE

ANNUAL ATTRACTIONS ISSUE

BABY NURSERY
COME VISIT OUR BABYDOLL ADOPTION NURSERY CENTER

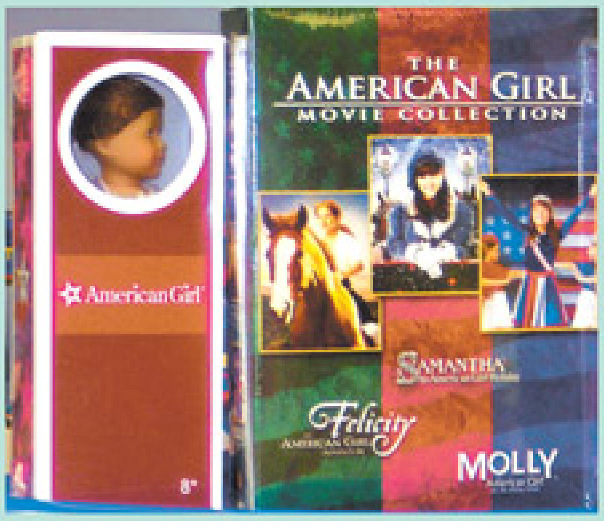
AIMEE & DARIA'S

DOLL OUTLET

OVER 5,000 DOLLS IN STOCK

CELEBRATING
17 YEARS

DELIGHTING DOLL COLLECTORS
BOTH YOUNG & YOUNG AT HEART



July Food Fest at the Intercourse Canning Company

Amazing Things to See and Do in Dutch Country

Visit the Movie WITNESS Farm A Real Hollywood Set

What Would You Protect Above All Else?

A New Story of Love, Faith, and Family

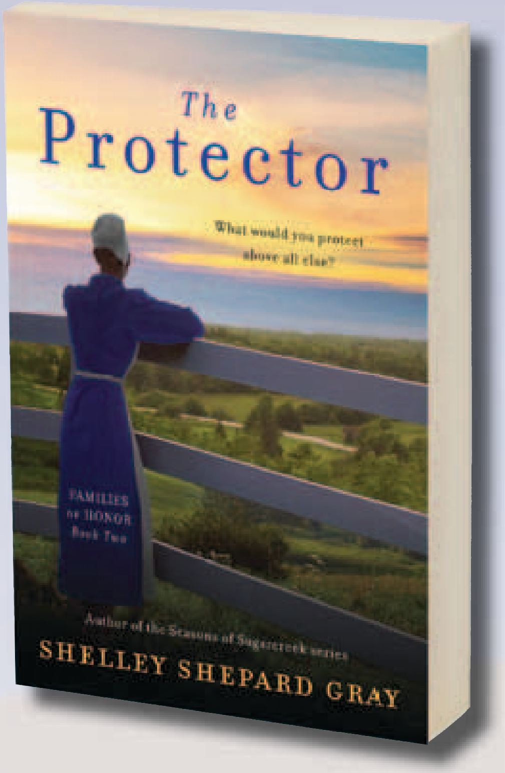
from bestselling author

SHELLEY SHEPARD GRAY

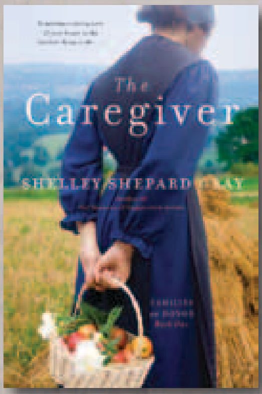
When her mother passes away, Ella is forced to auction off her family's farm.

She can't deny the pain she feels watching the new owner, Loyal Weaver, repairing her family's old farmhouse.

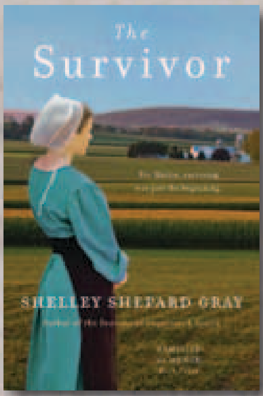
What Ella doesn't know is that Loyal secretly hopes she will occupy this house again . . . as his wife.


The Protector
What would you protect above all else?
Families of Honor Book Two
Author of the Seasons of Sugarcreek series
SHELLEY SHEPARD GRAY

Also by Shelley Shepard Gray



AVAILABLE NOW



COMING IN SEPTEMBER 2011

Fan Shelley Shepard Gray on Facebook for a chance to win Shelley's books!

Available at your local bookstore
or by calling 1-800-242-7377
www.ShelleyShepardGray.com

AVON INSPIRE

DUTCH HAVEN LANCASTER COUNTY LANDMARK

While driving along Route 30 in Lancaster County, you may see a few unfamiliar, if not unique, sites. You may catch a glimpse of some folks dressed a little unusually. You'll probably see a few horse-drawn carriages instead of cars. And, you'll undoubtedly notice the Dutch Haven windmill. This landmark building has been drawing thousands of visitors each week to Lancaster County for the past 50 years. Opening first as a restaurant in 1946, the Dutch Haven operated with great success with a world famous Shoo Fly pie recipe.

Today, the Dutch Haven staple is still "America's Best Shoo Fly Pie." All you have to do is pass through the door and you will be offered a sample taste of this famous pie—warmed and topped with whipped cream, just like it was always served in the restaurant, years ago.

Some 40,000 pies will be sold at the Dutch Haven this year alone. While most of these shoo fly pies are purchased over the counter, some are shipped UPS. Many pies are sold to faithful customers who have been buying them from Dutch Haven for over half a century!

Come Taste
America's Best
Shoo Fly Pie
FREE!

As always at Dutch Haven, the famous pie that was featured in Time magazine is just part of the story. The windmill building now houses one of, if not the best, selections of primitive Amish pine furniture in the area. Corner cupboards, pie safes, chests, and shelves are all available. Hundreds of pieces of Amish woodcrafts fill what once were the dining rooms of this wonderful old building. In addition, thousands of other items from pot holders to collectibles, T-shirts, small wood crafts, Amish romance novels, and much more make Dutch Haven a true shopping experience.

Dutch Haven is open 7 days a week, 9am-9pm. For more information about this Lancaster County landmark, call (717) 687-0111.

Visiting Dutch Haven - "the place that made Shoo Fly Pie famous" - will help to make your trip to Pennsylvania Dutch Country even more memorable.

Rt. 30's Largest Amish Craft Store
"AMERICA'S BEST" SHOO♥FLY PIE
DUTCH HAVEN
We Ship Pies Anywhere!
Route 30
2 Miles East of
Rockvale Outlets
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9AM-9PM
2857-A Lincoln Hwy. E., Ronks, PA 17572 (717) 687-0111 - www.dutchhaven.com
Jakey's Amish Barbeque

DOLL OUTLET

DOLL OUTLET

STOP IN TODAY & STAY AWHILE

While visiting Lancaster County, make sure you stop in at the DOLL OUTLET. It is located on Rt 30 east, one mile east past the Rockvale Outlets. Just look for the big white building, with bright purple awnings, surrounded by beautiful Amish farm lands. The DOLL OUTLET is the largest doll store within 1,000 miles of Lancaster, Pa. Over 5,000 dolls in stock, from 2” tall, up to 42” tall. Prices range from $2.00 up to $1,300.00. A doll for everyone at a price everyone can afford. You’ll find dolls from a variety of different major doll companies. Their selection includes porcelain dolls, limited edition artist collectable dolls, vinyl play baby dolls and Amish dolls.

You can even **MAKE YOUR OWN 20” VINYL BABY**.

In 45 minutes or less, they will assist you in assembling your own baby doll, choosing your wig, diapering, and dressing him/her. Prices start at $55.00 and up.

Bring your camera when you visit the **BABY DOLL ADOPTION NURSERY CENTER.**

You can peer through a real baby nursery window, with adorable life like babies waiting to be adopted. Have your picture taken with your new bundle of joy.

Meet the dolly nurse on duty who will give your baby a checkup with her stethoscope. Doctor’s coat is available for family members.

Bring your own doll, and participate in a **DOLL HAIR CARE SALON CLASS**.

This is a fun, hands on class. Learn how to properly comb and style your doll’s hair. Hair brush and salon chair provided during class. $10.00 class fee per doll.

You’ll also find **miniature doll house furniture and accessories too.**

Need new doll clothes? This is the place to go with a variety of sizes and styles. They specialize in clothing to fit the **American Girl Doll/Bitty Baby and other 18” dolls.**

Are you looking for AMISH COUNTRY SOUVENIRS? They have lots of vinyl Amish dolls dressed in locally handmade clothing, wall hangings, cloth dolls, and more.

When you arrive at the DOLL OUTLET, You will be greeted by some of the friendliest people in Lancaster, PA, and you’ll hear great praise and worship Music.

This is a store that began 16 years ago in a tiny room.

It was opened only on the weekends where they sold their own personal doll collection to raise money for children in need. Now, they have expanded to three buildings!

Brenda and Aimee Sheaffer (Mother & Daughter duo from the DOLL OUTLET) invite you **Stop In Today and Plan To Stay Awhile.** **Don’t forget your camera!!**

♥ DOLL DAY SPA ♥
♥ DOLL HAIR SALON ♥
♥ DOLL TEA PARTIES ♥
♥ DOLL EAR PIERCING ♥

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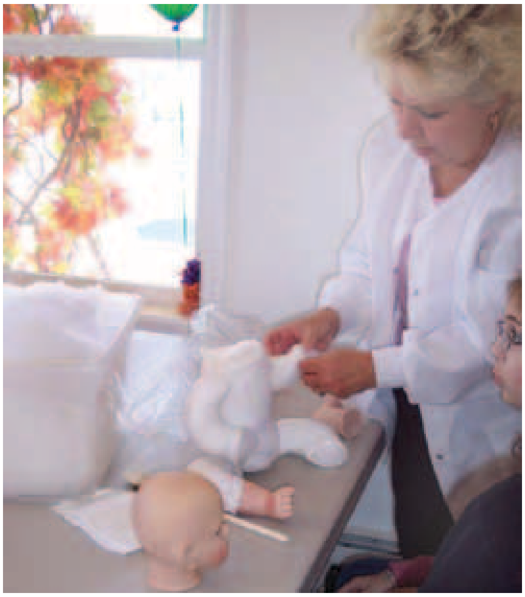
DOLL OUTLET SO MUCH TO SEE & DO

BABY DOLL ADOPTION NURSERY CENTER



MAKE YOUR OWN BABY DOLL

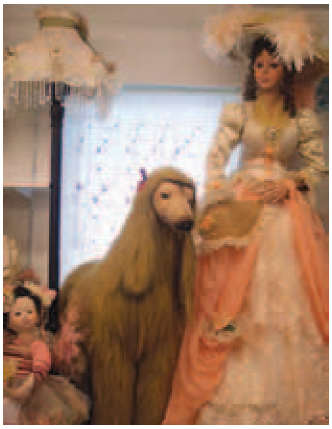
18" VINYL DOLLS

CLOTHING TO FIT YOUR AMERICAN GIRL DOLLS

DOLL HAIR CARE SALON

AMISH COUNTRY SOUVENIRS

DOLL FURNITURE



VICTORIAN DOLLS

DOLL HOUSE FURNITURE

Upcoming July Events

NOTE: All phone area codes are 717 unless otherwise noted. Please call or check websites to confirm dates and times.

Thru November
(see website for schedule)
"Wine & Cheese Train"
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522 StrasburgRailRoad.com

Thru November (call for schedule)
Ghost Tours of Lancaster
Strasburg & Downtown Lancaster
Strasburg / Lancaster
687-6687 / 610-404-4678 GhostTour.com

Thru October 30
- **Amish Visit-In-Person Tours** (Mon.-Fri.)
- **Witness Movie Covered Bridge Tours** (Wed. & Sat.)

Amish Experience / Amish Country Tours
Bird-in-Hand, 768-3600 AmishExperience.com

Thru October 22
"Joseph"
Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre
Strasburg, PA 800-377-1277 Sight-Sound.com

June 2 - July 9
"The Drowsy Chaperone"
Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre
Lancaster, 898-1900 DutchApple.com

July 1
First Friday Activities
Throughout Downtown Area
Lancaster, 399-7977
LancasterARTS.com/firstfridays

July 2
Traditional Dinner & Murder Mystery
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

July 2 thru November 5
(see website for schedule)
Amazing Corn Maize Maze
Cherry Crest Adventure Farm
Strasburg, PA 687-6843
CherryCrestFarm.com

Joseph is reunited with his father in Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre's "Joseph" thru October 22, 2011!

Happy 4th of July!
From All of Us at
Amish Country News!

July 3
The 257th Army Band
Long's Park Amphitheater
(free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA LongsPark.org

July 2 & 3
Theme - Textiles, Linens, & Buttons
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115 ShuppsGrove.com

July 4
4th of July Celebration
Lititz Springs Park
Lititz, PA 626-8981

July 8
Wine Tasting
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

GREAT ATMOSPHERE, BETTER FOOD, EXCELLENT BEER!

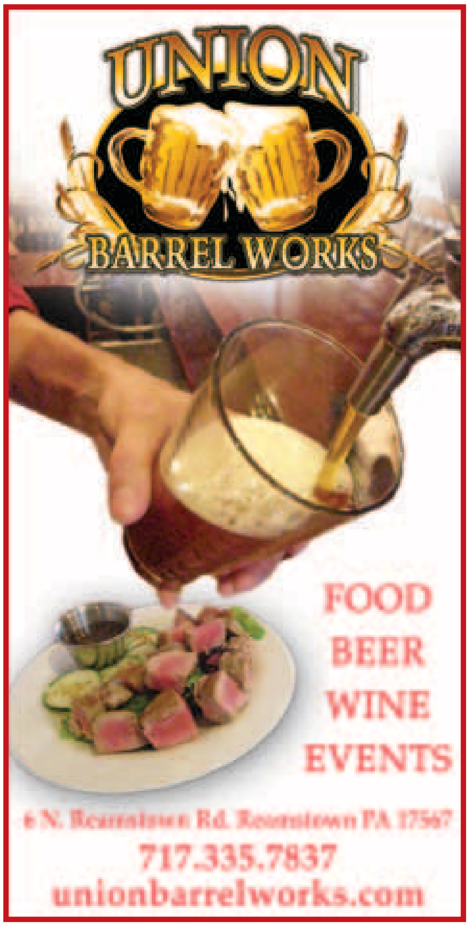
by Clinton Martin

Just north of Ephrata, an up-and-coming force in the Lancaster County dining scene is quietly making a stir. Union Barrel Works has been pumping a special energy into the peaceful little village of Reamstown. It all started when the Rupp family left one of the "old guard" breweries in Lancaster County and decided to start their own brewpub.

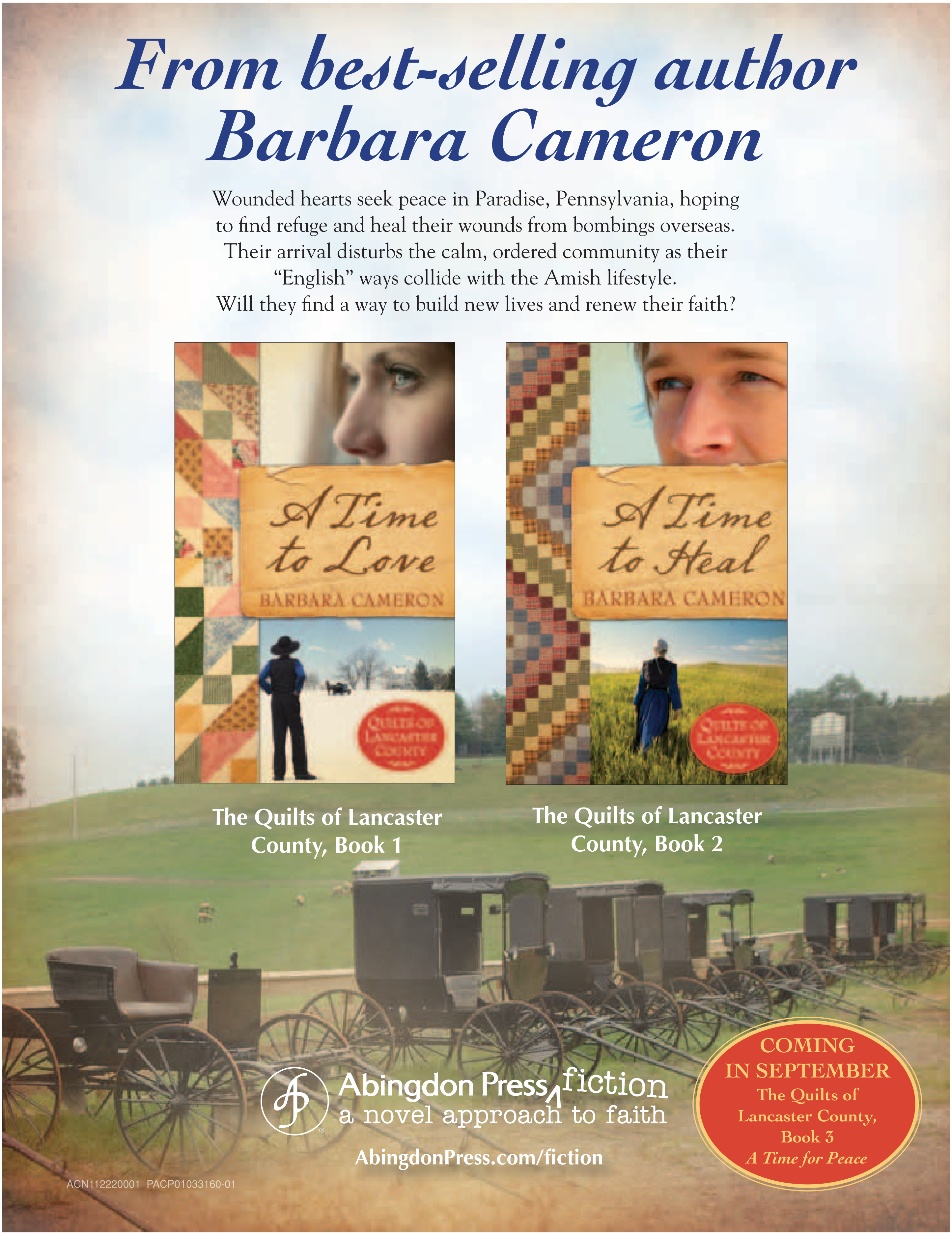
Their idea, like many others, was to craft excellent small-batch micro-beers, but a keen sense of There Must Be Good Food made their endeavors unique. All around the county new breweries are pouring hops in a kettle, hoping to press out a niche in the ever-expanding craft beer market, but UBW made sure to have a renowned chef alongside the classically trained brewmaster.

Next was the search for the perfect location. Eventually, an historic old brick façade at 6 N. Reamstown Road was uncovered. Not surprisingly, the place needed a lot of work, but the hundreds of hours of "sweat equity" resulted in just the right atmosphere to enjoy a superb meal experience while sampling some truly special brews. The original tin ceiling is a throw-back to Victorian America, and the bar itself dates back to the 1800s. Imagine the stories it could tell! Sturdy hardwood floors remind guests that this building was made for work, and built to last.

Your memories will surely last for a very long time as well after you've visited, tasted, sipped, sighed, and smiled at the offerings of Union Barrel Work's friendly kitchen and approachable beer. Whether you favor traditional pub grub such as wings and burgers, or you find yourself in an adventurous spirit and go for the Texas Caviar (no fish, think avocado & black bean salsa!), the menu is your oyster shell filled with pearls (although you're more likely to see mussels on the menu). Bite into something amazing, raise a glass of beer next to the tanks where it all started, and, if you're like the gang here at Amish Country News, you'll be planning your next visit before the second glass of the "Hefeweizen" Beer is served!



6 N. Reamstown Rd. Reamstown PA 17567
717.335.7837
unionbarrelworks.com



From best-selling author Barbara Cameron

Wounded hearts seek peace in Paradise, Pennsylvania, hoping to find refuge and heal their wounds from bombings overseas. Their arrival disturbs the calm, ordered community as their "English" ways collide with the Amish lifestyle. Will they find a way to build new lives and renew their faith?

The Quilts of Lancaster County, Book 1

The Quilts of Lancaster County, Book 2

Abingdon Press fiction
a novel approach to faith

AbingdonPress.com/fiction

COMING IN SEPTEMBER
The Quilts of Lancaster County, Book 3
A Time for Peace

ACN112220001 PACP01033160-01

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Get to Mount Hope Estate & Winery, the home of the PA Renaissance Faire for **Blues & Brews** and enjoy the taste of Maryland with all-you-can-eat crabs, shrimp, brisket and more. Round out this enjoyable evening with non-stop music from live bands and unlimited drinks all for the cost of admission. **July 23, 2011 12pm-3pm, 5pm-8pm parenfaire.com for details.**

July Events (Cont'd)

July 9 & 10
Theme - Jr. Dealers & Electronics
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115 ShuppsGrove.com

July 10
Oz Noy Trio
Long's Park Amphitheater (free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA LongsPark.org

July 10
PA Music Expo - Keystone Record Collectors
2285 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 898-1246 RecordCollectors.org

July 14 - August 20
"The Wizard of Oz"
Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre
Lancaster, PA 898-1900 DutchApple.com

July 14 & 28
An Authentic Bird-in-Hand Experience: A Banquet in a Cornfield.
Smucker's Farm
Bird-in-Hand, PA 768-1500 Bird-in-Hand.com

July 15 & 16
"Spend the Night, Build a Lionel Train Layout"
National Toy Train Museum
Strasburg, PA 687-8976 MTTMuseum.org

July 16 & 17
Shupp's Grove Bottle Fest
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115 ShuppsGrove.com

July 16
Traditional Dinner & Murder Mystery
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522 StrasburgRailRoad.com

July 17
Danny Kortchmar Band
Long's Park Amphitheater (free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA LongsPark.org

July 23 & 24
Theme - Christmas, Holiday & Candy Containers
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115 ShuppsGrove.com

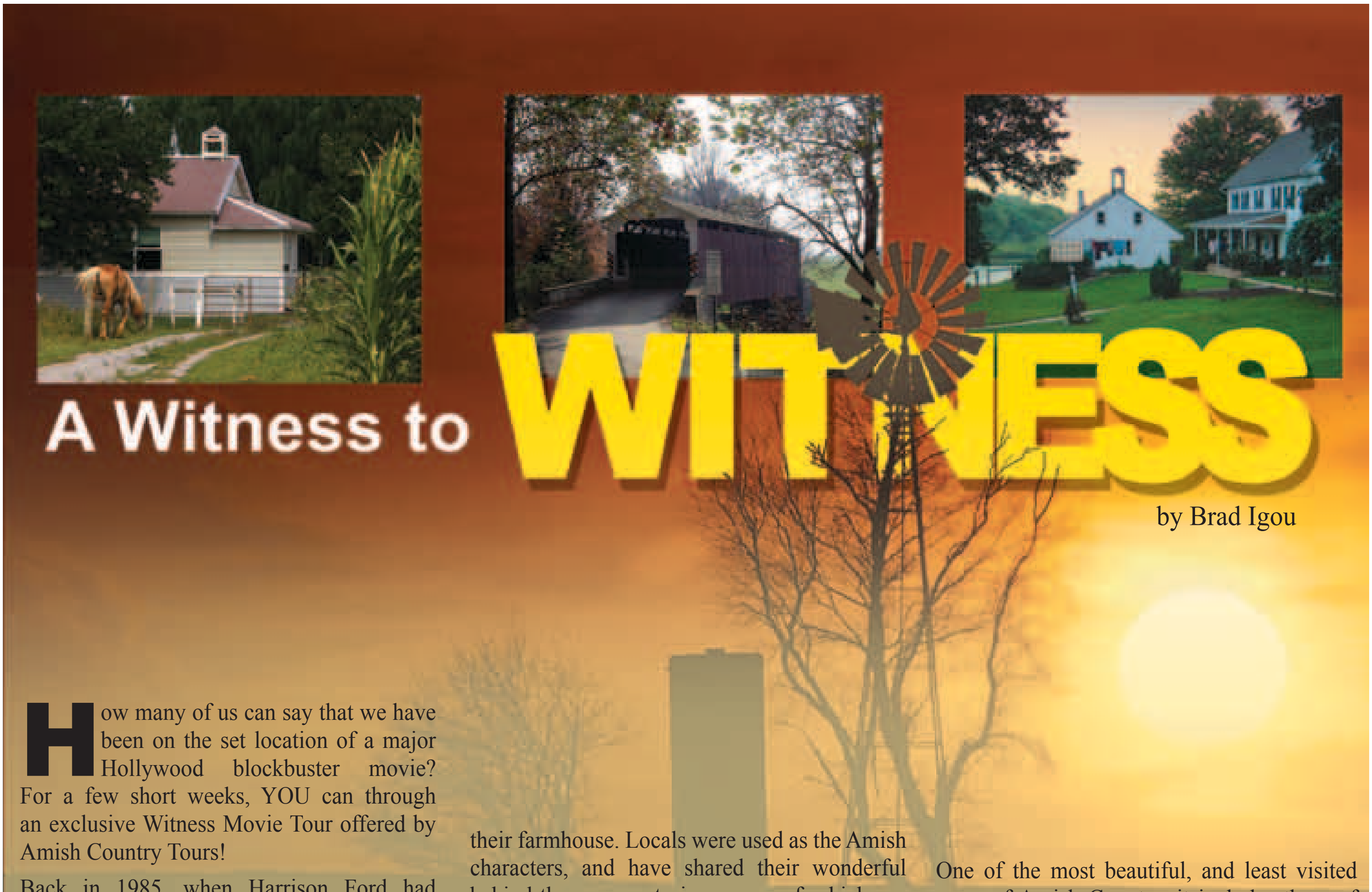
July 23
Blues & Brews
Mount Hope Estate & Winery
Manheim, PA 665-7021 PaRenFaire.com

July 24
The Paul Thorn Band
Long's Park Amphitheater (free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA LongsPark.org

July 30
Traditional Dinner & Murder Mystery
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522 StrasburgRailRoad.com

July 30 & 31
Theme - Paintings, Prints & Sculptures
Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115 ShuppsGrove.com

July 31
Baka Beyond
Long's Park Amphitheater (free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA LongsPark.org



A Witness to WITNESS

by Brad Igou

How many of us can say that we have been on the set location of a major Hollywood blockbuster movie? For a few short weeks, YOU can through an exclusive Witness Movie Tour offered by Amish Country Tours!

Back in 1985, when Harrison Ford had become famous for his roles in STAR WARS and INDIANA JONES, and Kelly McGillis had as well for her role in TOP GUN, the two came together in an unlikely story. It was a drama that could only unfold in America, yet it was directed by an Australian, and centered around a group of people who do not want to be photographed. This culture clash, love story, murder mystery thriller was an unusual mix that turned into a universally acclaimed film, earned eight Academy Award nominations, and is still avidly watched today by countless movie fans… WITNESS.

The script, inspired by an episode of *Gunsmoke*, was originally titled “Called Home,” and is often cited as a frequent model for budding screenwriters. The story involves a detective protecting a young Amish boy who has witnessed a brutal murder in the Philadelphia train station. The detective ends up taking sanctuary on an Amish farm, as those responsible for the murder come looking for both the detective and the Amish boy.

The farm chosen for filming was not Amish, and not visible from the road. Back in 1985, the owners were reluctant to turn their farm over to Paramount Studios for a movie starring “an actor named after a car.” But their daughters knew who Harrison Ford was, and soon he was walking the halls of their farmhouse. Locals were used as the Amish characters, and have shared their wonderful behind-the-scenes stories, many of which are imparted by the delightful guides who conduct the tour.

The farm, now owned by an Amish family, has remained a famous site visitors have long wished to see. The exclusive arrangement secured by Amish Country Tours with the family permits groups of up to 14 people to visit and photograph the location, which is not otherwise open to the public. At times, there is even the opportunity to talk with the Amish family that owns and works the farm, who are still unsure why their property holds so much allure after all these years.

I remember the first time I came over the ridge and got that first view of the farm down in the valley. My eyes scanned the scene from the barn on the right, and then across the lawn to the birdhouse, pond, and summer kitchen, so pivotal to the plot. For a few moments I felt like I was in the movie and, in a way, I was.

While visitors may not enter any buildings, photos are permitted, and a 360-degree shoot from the front yard captures every panorama seen in the movie, including the narrow driveway that runs up the hill from which Harrison Ford took his leave of the Amish world.

Part of what makes this tour so special, besides the visit to the farm itself, is the winding route along backroads of southern Lancaster County. One of the most beautiful, and least visited areas of Amish Country, it includes three of the county’s most historic covered bridges.

But the tour begins and ends with WITNESS, as the route taps several locations of the movie including the village of Intercourse. Tour-goers also receive a list of lesser known WITNESS locations in other parts of the county, as well as an authentic Amish-made wooden toy horse, just like the one young Lukas Haas was given in the film.

Whether you are inspired to discover a famous movie location, the spectacular Amish Country scenery, or both, this certainly is a rare opportunity and a very special experience for a limited few.

The Witness Movie Covered Bridge Tour departs, Wednesdays and Saturdays at 4:30pm from the Amish Experience Theater at Plain & Fancy Farm, Route 340 between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. Tickets may be purchased, subject to availability, in advance in person at the Amish Experience Theater, by phone 717-768-3600, ext.210 (Visa or MasterCard), or online at www.AmishExperience.com. Tours end in October.

If you’re among the fortunate to experience this tour, not only will you have walked in Harrison Ford’s footsteps, you will have traversed an authentic Hollywood film set, all without ever leaving PA Dutch Country!

Train Your Sights on AMTRAK

by Clinton Martin

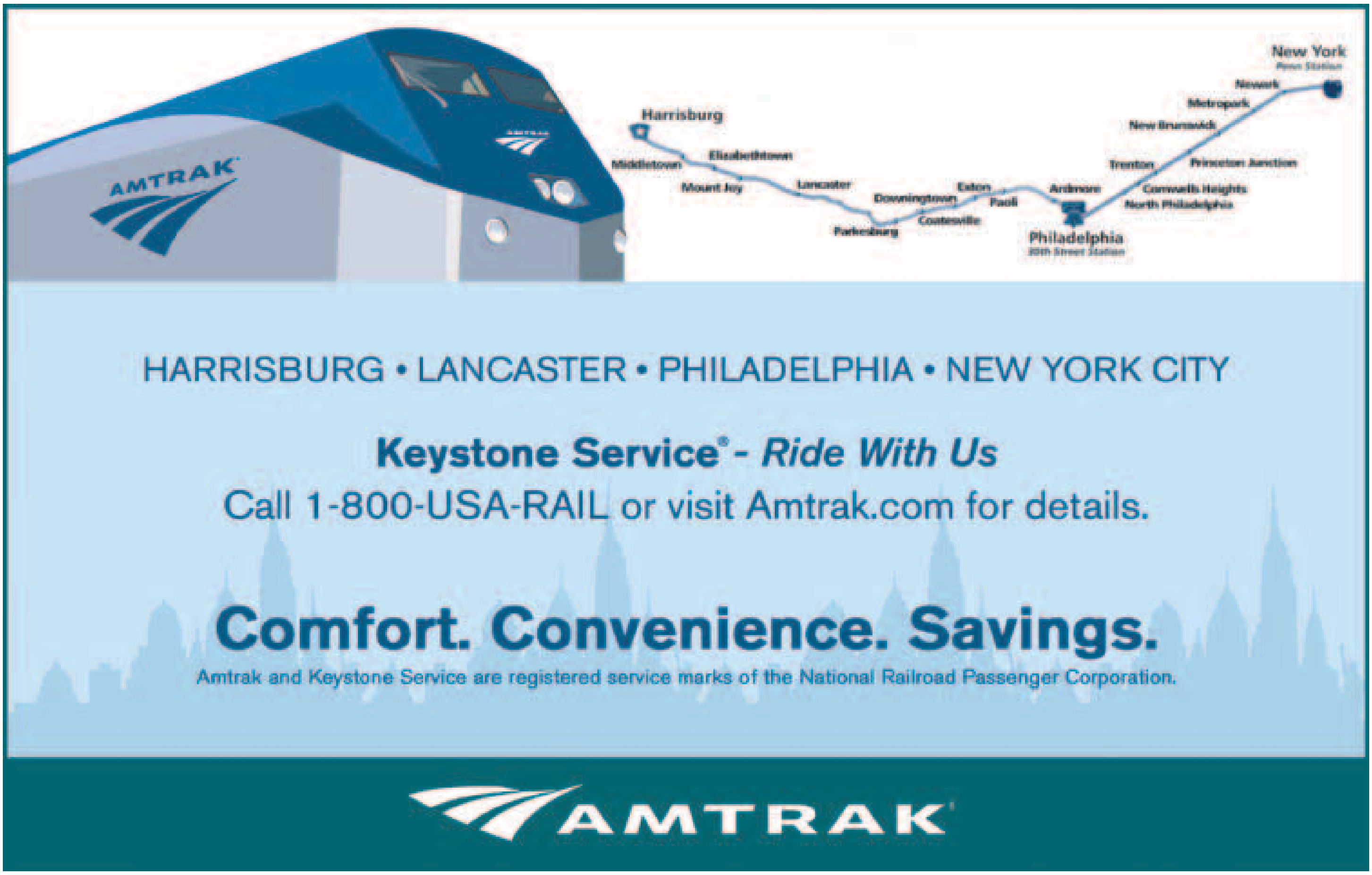
Amtrak travels the Country, including stops in Pennsylvania Dutch Country.

Have you ever taken a subway in Lancaster? Neither have I, because there isn't one. But, Lancaster does have options when it comes to traveling to Amish Country. Of course you can drive or take a bus, but often the most relaxing is simply riding the rails. Amtrak connects cities all over the Country, yet each route feels distinctly unique. After all, when you are pulling up to the Lancaster train station, rolling Amish farmland suddenly turns into a modern, vibrant downtown. As you disembark, the stately old train station reveals the many decades that this bulwark has stood tall, as period styles of architecture sit beside or atop one another, including the latest touches providing a modern face-lift.

So now you've arrived in Lancaster. No stress from traffic. No double-takes at gas prices. No hair-raising cab rides. Just a lovely city in the middle of a world-famous destination to explore. For visitors seeking out Amish Country without transportation to Lancaster, Connective Tours (a division of Philadelphia Trolley Works in Philadelphia) runs day trips to Amish Country via train. Transportation is included to the Amish Experience at Plain and Fancy Farm. Here you enjoy the renowned Amish Experience Theater, the Amish Country Homestead, and a Farmlands van tour. Call 215-925-TOUR for details or visit www.phillytour.com.

Continue westbound and you repeat the script with a new plot with more picturesque farmland and small cities to explore, including our State Capitol. With exhilarating nightlife, wonderful museums, and plenty of you'll-only-find-it-here attractions, Harrisburg is an easy and convenient trip. Returning east, you'll find yourself transported in comfort to Philadelphia, where America's most historic square mile awaits. And, the City of Brotherly Love has not only embraced many of today's urban trends, it has itself become a leader in what's hot these days. Famous TV chefs ply the restaurant trade, an exceptional scene for nightlife wakes up your inner dance diva, and world-class sports teams continue to cast spells on the Philly faithful.

Finding things to do in Lancaster, and our neighbors east and west isn't difficult. Getting there is half the battle. Forget the woes and take the train. You'll get there faster, spend less money, and you can actually concentrate on taking in the local vibe instead of looking for that exit that you just passed by!



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11MKP200

The Ephrata Cloister

A Home for the Earliest PA German Settlers

by Clinton Martin

One of America's earliest religious communities, the nearby Ephrata Cloister was founded in 1732 by German settlers seeking spiritual rather than earthly rewards. The fascinating story of the Ephrata Cloister represents one of the earliest seeds of the Pennsylvania German culture. Gathered in unique European style buildings, the community consisted of celibate Brothers and Sisters, and a married congregation of families. At the zenith of the community in the 1740s and 1750s, about 300 members worked and worshiped at the Cloister. The lifestyle of the celibate members was characterized by strict discipline and self-denial. Yet, they became known for their beautiful self-composed music (over 100 hymns were created by the community,) intricate Germanic calligraphy called Frakturschriften (a style of artwork that was first introduced to America by the Ephrata Cloister,) and even full-scale printing of at least 125 books and other projects. Today, the Ephrata Cloister is an official state museum with nine of the historic buildings painstakingly preserved, open for visitors to discover. The Ephrata Cloister is located at 632 West Main Street in Ephrata. Call 717-733-6600 or go to www.ephratacloister.org for more information.

Time Line

- 1691: Conrad Beissel, founder of Ephrata Cloister is born in Eberbach, Germany.
- 1720: Beissel comes to America and eventually settles in Lancaster County.
- 1732: Beissel leaves his friends near Lancaster to pursue a life of solitude. This is the start of the Ephrata Cloister.
- 1741 Ephrata Cloister begins to develop industries of milling and printing.
- 1740s-1750s Ephrata Cloister is at its peak with about 80 celibate members and an additional 200 married members. The community becomes a center for the creation of art, music and printing. Significant buildings, including the surviving dormitory and meetinghouse are built.
- 1768 Conrad Beissel dies and the community begins to decline.
- 1777 A military hospital is established at Ephrata by the American Army in the Revolutionary War.
- 1813 Last celibate member dies; the remaining married members form the German Seventh Day Baptist Church.
- 1934 The congregation of the German Seventh Day Baptist Church at Ephrata is dissolved.
- 1941 The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania acquires the historic site and begins restoration.

MENNONITE INFORMATION CENTER

BIBLICAL TABERNACLE

Tabernacle Presentations Daily Every Hour on the Hour 9-4

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"When you step into the world of Ann Gabhart's *The Blessed*, you'll find it inhabited by a truly delightful cast of characters . . . a tender and inspiring read."
—Ann Tatlock, award-winning novelist

"From cover to cover, *The Blessed* captivates and challenges—an absolutely wonderful read."
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"Skillful research and a well-woven story make for a genuine page-turner!"—Lorna Seilstad, author of the Lake Manawa Summers series

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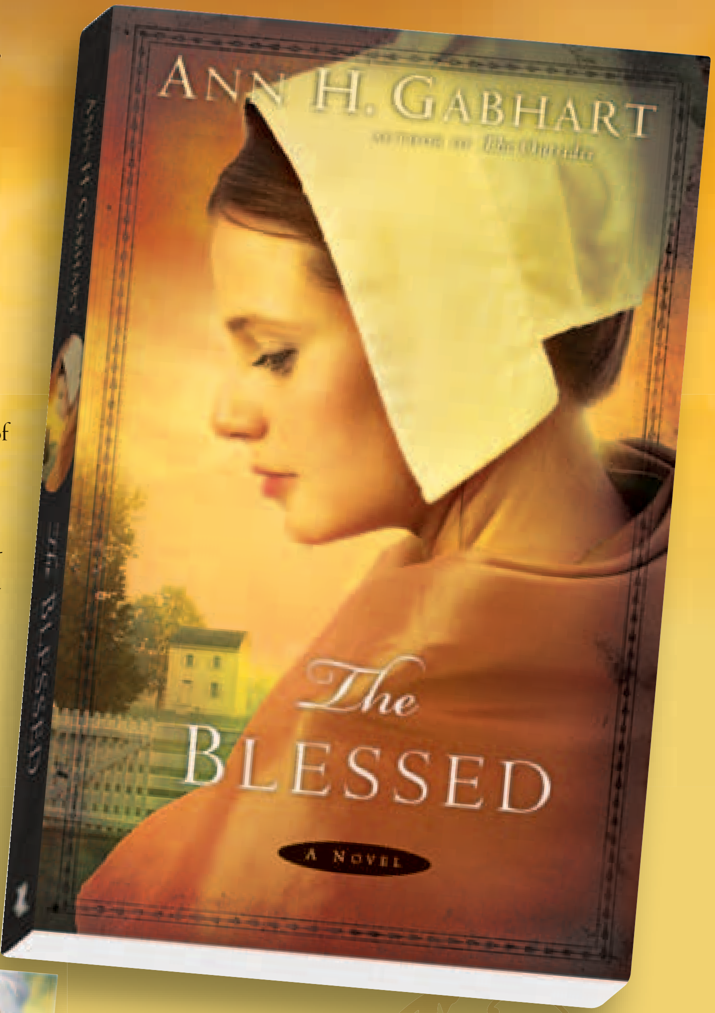
"Ann Gabhart has written a fine and fair rendering of the Shaker ways and how the beliefs of this communal society touched the lives of those within the community and those without."—Jane Kirkpatrick, award-winning author of *The Daughter's Walk*



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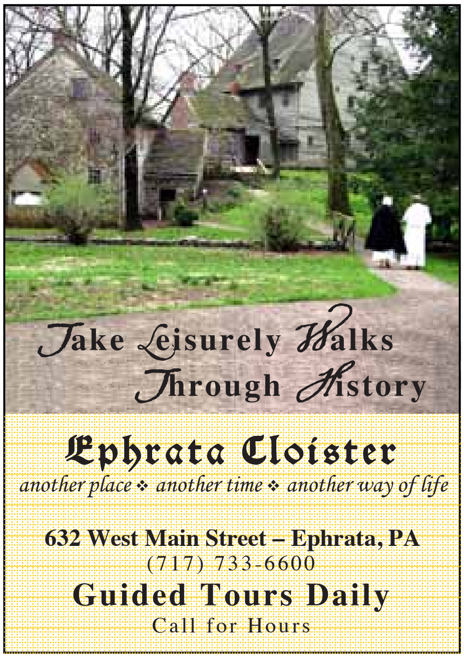

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"Who are the "Plain" people?"

What is the difference between Mennonite and Amish?

If we call them Pennsylvania Dutch, why aren't they originally from Holland?

by Clinton Martin

These questions, and more, seem to be addressed by a wide variety of books, blogs, newspapers, and tourist attractions. Even local passersby all have their opinions about the Pennsylvania Dutch. So, where do you go for an assuredly authentic answer to your inquiries?

When it comes to questions about the Anabaptist (Amish & Mennonite are threads, but other groups abound) you will find trustworthy information provided by the Mennonite Information Center, which offers four distinct ways to discover the Amish and Mennonite people of Lancaster County.

First, you can enjoy their exclusive three-screen feature presentation of "Who Are the Amish?" produced right here in Lancaster County. Second, you can browse one of the area's best selections of books about the Amish and Mennonite communities. A whole summer's worth of reading awaits, from scholarly works by renowned authorities, to entertaining Amish-themed fiction by the best of today's story-tellers.

For those who'd rather see Amish Country from a closer perspective, the Mennonite Information Center offers guided tours with a "step-on guide" which simply means a tour guide will join you in your vehicle, providing a private, customized tour of the Amish countryside.

Lastly, the Mennonite Information Center is home to The Biblical Tabernacle Reproduction, an intricately designed replica of the original Old Testament tabernacle. People of all backgrounds have long enjoyed this intriguing presentation.

Finding your way, planning your visit, and getting a few more details is as easy as stopping in personally, calling 717.299.0954 or visiting mennoniteinfoctr.com.

Three of My Favorite Amish Country Micro-Brews

by Clinton Martin

Union Barrel Works
Wobbly Bob Double Bock

Wobbly Bob is a rich and malty strong bock with a mellow finish. It is delicious, but must be respected! Too many, and you'll understand all too well why it is called "Wobbly Bob."

Lancaster Brewing Company
Hop Hog IPA

Craft beer is delightful for its subtle flavors. But on a hot summer day, a nice hoppy India Pale Ale is just perfect. Hop Hog is a stellar example of this style. Available at the brewery or at local distributors.

Swashbuckler Brewing Company

Red Sea Amber Ale

I usually prefer a German lager, but the Red Sea Amber Ale forces a change of heart. It is a medium-bodied amber ale, brewed with all English ingredients. It goes well with food, or is a meal itself!

Intercourse Canning Company's Ultimate Food Fest

Taste Amish Country's Bountiful Harvest

One of my favorite stops in Intercourse is operated by three generations of Adams family who warmly welcome you to their famous Intercourse Canning Company. During the month of July, free tastings, recipes, sales on featured items and all-around canning fun provide extra motivation to visit. But, to borrow a bit from Jerry Seinfeld - if most of the yummies produced at the Canning Company are put in jars, why do they call it the Canning Company? Well, they've been canning wonderfully scrumptious morsels in jars a long, long time now, so you'll just have to ask them!

If you have been fortunate enough to visit in the past, you might be accustomed to the food tasting events the Canning Company has been holding monthly, but the July happenings take the tasting experience a giant step beyond. Five July Saturdays (thankfully), each featuring different themes, and each more delectable than the last.

Salsa Saturday

Saturday, July 2 • 10:30am-3:00pm

Enjoy the delicious Amish 7/8/9/10 Layer Dip, and Salsa Pizza. Sample all of the salsas including Apple, Peach, Medium, Mild, Corn, and Pineapple Mango. The Adams provide the corn chips of course.

Hot Dog Day

Saturday, July 9 • 10:30am-3:00pm

Get $2 hot dogs with all of the fixings you can imagine or $2.75 chili dogs with ICC's award winning chili recipe! Choose from Amish Sweet Mustard, Hot Horseradish Mustard, Wing Flappin Mustard, Sauerkraut, Smokey Hot Pepper and Onion Relish, Sweet Pickle Relish, Green Tomato Relish, Southern Chow Chow and more.

In a Pickle? Take a Dip!

Saturday, July 16 • 10:30am-3:00pm

You've got to try the Kosher Style, Garlic Dill, Grammy Betty's Banana, Molly's Sweet and jars more of the most tasty pickles you've ever put to your lips. The gourmet dip mixes are also being featured with recipes galore to take home with you. Super discounts on all Intercourse Canning pickles and dip mixes this day only.

Lancaster County Picnic Day

Saturday, July 23 • 10:30am-3:00pm

Visit the Cannery and taste some great dishes perfect for your summer picnic! Beets of all sorts, summertime dips, and lots more that the whole gang will love!

A guest picks the next sample.

Annual Chicken BBQ

Saturday, July 30

FREE with a $40 purchase

The annual ICC free lunch. For every $40 spent you'll receive a BBQ chicken dinner including side salad, pickle, and chips. Taste all the BBQ sauces including Apple Butter, Cranberry, Hickory Smoked BBQ and Barn Raisin' Wing (for a delightfully different flavor in any recipe in place of your old standby BBQ sauce). Extra meals may be purchased for $5.50 each and only $18 for a Family Meal which serves a hungry family of four.

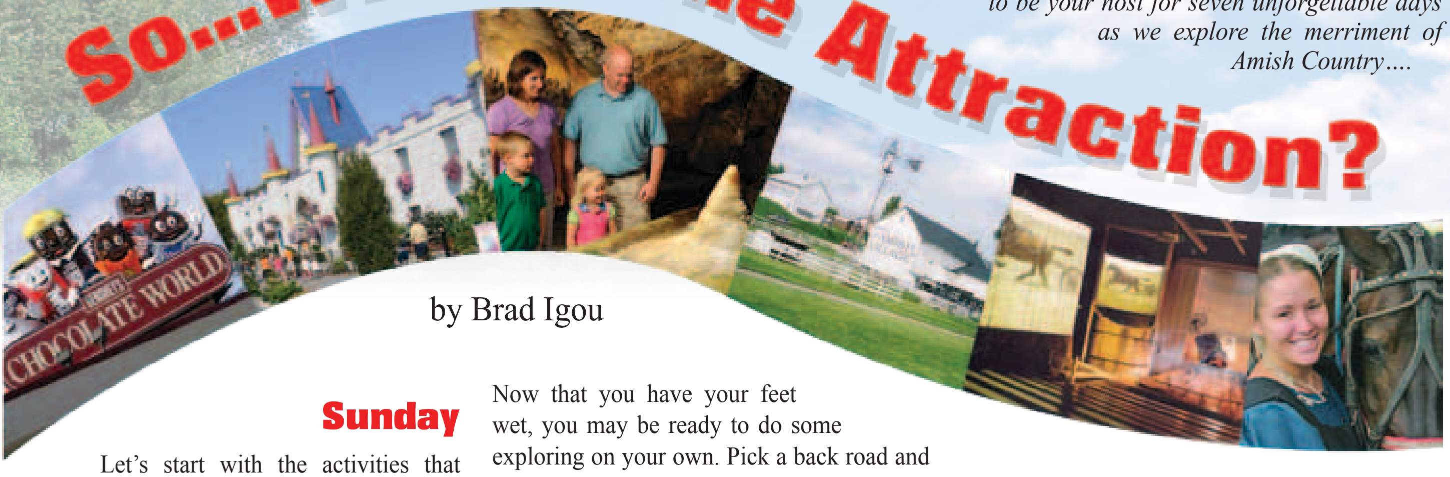
Two friends enjoy Intercourse Canning Company's hospitality.

Traveling east on RT 340, when you get to Intercourse, take the bend in the road to the right. Just ahead you'll find the Canning Company on your right. I haven't tasted them all, but I have sampled many and I can assure you that you'll discover some of the tastiest tastes you'll find in any country, especially PA Dutch Country!

Open seven days a week • Call 717-768-0156 or visit IntercourseCanning.com for more information.

So...What's The Attraction?

Summer is here – and you're on vacation! Amish Country offers an amazing array of things to see and do, from heritage sites and roller coasters, to theme parks and Amish culture. Special events range from murder mystery dinner trains to the glorious Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire. Come with me and allow me to be your host for seven unforgettable days as we explore the merriment of Amish Country....



by Brad Igou

Sunday

Let's start with the activities that can easily occupy an entire day. The kids aren't going to want to wait, so let's put those amusement parks as our "Day One." For big boys and girls, an Amish Country favorite is **Hersheypark**, with a visit to adjoining **ChocolateWorld**, both offering new features for visitors this year. Younger children will enjoy **Dutch Wonderland**, a special theme park with rides sized just for them. Both have water park sections for cooling off on hot summer days. So, depending on the age of those you need to entertain, choose either. While not full-day activities, make a note that the kids will love the **Crayola Factory** in Easton, and **Crystal Cave** in Kutztown.

Monday

After all that activity, you may want a change of pace. Remember, this IS Amish Country, so let's explore the oldest Amish settlement in the world. At the **Amish Village**, you can visit the house, schoolroom, barn, blacksmith shop, smokehouse, and other buildings to gain insight into this unique culture. At the **Amish Experience**, **"Jacob's Choice"** presents the Amish story with a one-of-a-kind special effects theater show, followed by a tour of the **Amish Country Homestead**, a designated Heritage Site. Take an **Amish Country Tour** into the countryside to visit our Amish neighbors at work and play. Finally, enjoy one of **Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides** to see the countryside at a slower pace, just as the Amish do. And to learn more about the Plain people of Lancaster, visit the **Mennonite Information Center**, where you can see **"Who Are the Amish?"** and explore their vast library of reference materials next door at the **Historical Society**.

Now that you have your feet wet, you may be ready to do some exploring on your own. Pick a back road and get lost. Stop for baked goods…a whoopie pie, anyone? Visit a craft or quilt shop on an Amish farm… a quillow to take home, perhaps? Visit a furniture shop and explore the vast selection of Amish made craftsmanship… time for a new bedroom set? And nothing is more refreshing in the summer than cold homemade root beer… maybe with a scoop of vanilla ice cream?

Want more Amish? Consider an evening tour, such as the **Witness Movie Covered Bridge Tour** from the Amish Experience Theater at **Plain & Fancy Farm**, or the **Amish Visit-in-Person Tour** to meet and talk with the Amish face-to-face, where they live and work. Or simply buy one of those Amish fiction novels and cuddle up in bed tonight for a good read.

Tuesday

If it's Tuesday, this must be the day for some history. Amish Country has a rich heritage to survey. **Lancaster** is the oldest inland city in the United States. **Downtown** you'll find our nation's oldest farmers market, many historic buildings, a quilt and heritage museum, and even walking tours.

And the surrounding countryside is filled with small towns and villages, each of which has its own story to tell. In **Ephrata**, one of my favorite places is the **Ephrata Cloister**, a monastic community founded in 1732 by German settlers that really was "unique," from its buildings to its worship music. Another State museum is **Landis Valley Village**, a "mini-Williamsburg" where you can trace our local heritage from 1740 to 1940.

For a different twist on history, head to **Lititz** and the **Julius Sturgis Pretzel Bakery**, America's first. Here you can see the original ovens and even try your hand at pretzel twisting. The town is also well-known for its Moravian heritage, **Fourth of July Celebration**, **Wilbur Chocolate**, and streets lined with charming shops. And, for a break from the past, just north of Lititz is **High Sports**, where you can include a round of miniature golf among the waterfalls, hit a few in the batting cage, or take a spin on the go kart track.

Finally, for some **"Christmas in July,"** head for the **National Christmas Center.** This is a world class collection of everything, and we do mean everything, related to our favorite holiday. From animated walk-through displays, to Christmas around the world, you'll be enthralled as you visit Santa's Workshop or walk the streets of Bethlehem to a life-size nativity.

Tonight, what better way to top off a day of history than by taking a **Ghost Tour**? Whether you choose the tour in **Strasburg** or downtown Lancaster, you will discover our "other side," as guides bring the history (and perhaps the deceased) to life!

Wednesday

OK, let's get real. You can't be here in Amish Country and not do some shopping and eating. So turn yourself loose today and indulge. Our outlet malls are legendary, as are all the wonderful family-owned shops selling crafts, quilts, antiques, and foods.

Stop by **Dutch Haven** for some shoofly pie and local souvenirs or furniture. Check out the special July events and samplings at **Intercourse Canning Company**. Then

cross the street and see how pretzels are made at the **Intercourse Pretzel Factory**. Watch candles being made at the **Old Candle Barn**. Visit the **Bird-in-Hand Farmers Market** or **Jake's Country Trading Post**. If you're a doll collector, head to **Aimee & Daria's** (see cover story). And for some really different shopping, consider **That Fish Place**, **Killer Hats**, or **Country Knives**… it's one sharp store!

After all that shopping, maybe it's time for a movie, so let's head over to **Penn Cinema**. There are plenty of movies to choose from, but you may wish to go to **IMAX**. Yes, Lancaster has its own IMAX theater, without those big city prices. I hear some guy named Harry Potter will be in town this month!

Thursday

Today is brought to you by the letter "T." Let's make this a Train Day. Of course, the place to go for the train enthusiast is **Strasburg**, named **"Traintown, U.S.A."** The big attraction here is the **Strasburg Rail Road**, the oldest shortline in our nation. Taking a ride behind that big steam locomotive, hearing the whistle blow, and enjoying the Amish countryside by rail make a fun experience for the whole family. You can even get off and have a picnic lunch, or spend some time at the **Cherry Crest Adventure Farm**, with its **Amazing Maize Maze** and a barnyard full of farm related games and activities. Another nearby choice is **Verdant View Farm**, where you can milk a cow, feed a calf, make cheese, or take a wagon ride through the fields.

Meanwhile, back at the station, we just walk across the street to the **Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania**, filled with all kinds of locomotives, railway cars, and special exhibits. You'll especially enjoy being able to walk underneath a huge locomotive for a truly different perspective.

Now we go from macro to micro, as we head to two attractions that focus on model railroading. At the **Choo Choo Barn**, the Groff family continues a 50-year tradition with a huge layout, 22 operating trains, and 150 hand-created buildings and animated displays you will see no place else. Not far away is the **National Toy Train Museum**, where you can explore the history of "toy trains" produced by over 100 manufacturers from the 1800's to the present, with five operating, interactive layouts.

Friday

Today's theme really is entertainment. And we'll basically focus on the world of the theater. You'd never guess that PA Dutch Country would have so much to offer. Art galleries, great restaurants, a symphony orchestra, several theater companies, and the **Fulton Opera House** could well be your destination downtown today. Outside of town, you'll find the **Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre** for musical shows, this month with "The Drowsy Chaperone" followed by "The Wizard of OZ." Other options include the **American Music Theatre** for concerts and musical reviews, or the **Rainbow Dinner Theatre** for comedy. Finally, don't miss **Sight & Sound** for jaw-dropping productions on a huge stage that surpasses virtually anything to be seen on Broadway. This is the closing season for "Joseph," an ideal show for the entire family. Many theaters have matinees, so you need not restrict your theater just to the evenings.

Saturday

Maybe it's now time to really escape and travel back to… Renaissance England? In August, the **Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire** begins its 31st year as one of the area's biggest and most popular festivals, taking visitors back in time with hundreds of colorfully costumed actors, shows, music, foods, interactive theater and even a replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theater where the Bard's plays come to life! You'll want to spend time sampling the wines and beers, do a little shopping, bantering, and bartering with the dozens of Renaissance guildsmen, including the awesome glass blower. For sure, stay for the exciting joust at the end of the day. And then, sadly, it's time to pack everyone in the car and head home.

OK, so you probably won't be here for a week, but whether it's a daytrip or a weekend getaway, you'll run out of time way before you run out of things to do. In fact, your only problem may be deciding what to do. I don't know anyplace else where you can discover such rich history, fascinating culture, truly unique towns, entertainment, festivals, and wonderful foods, all wrapped up with the stunning backdrop of the Amish farmlands.

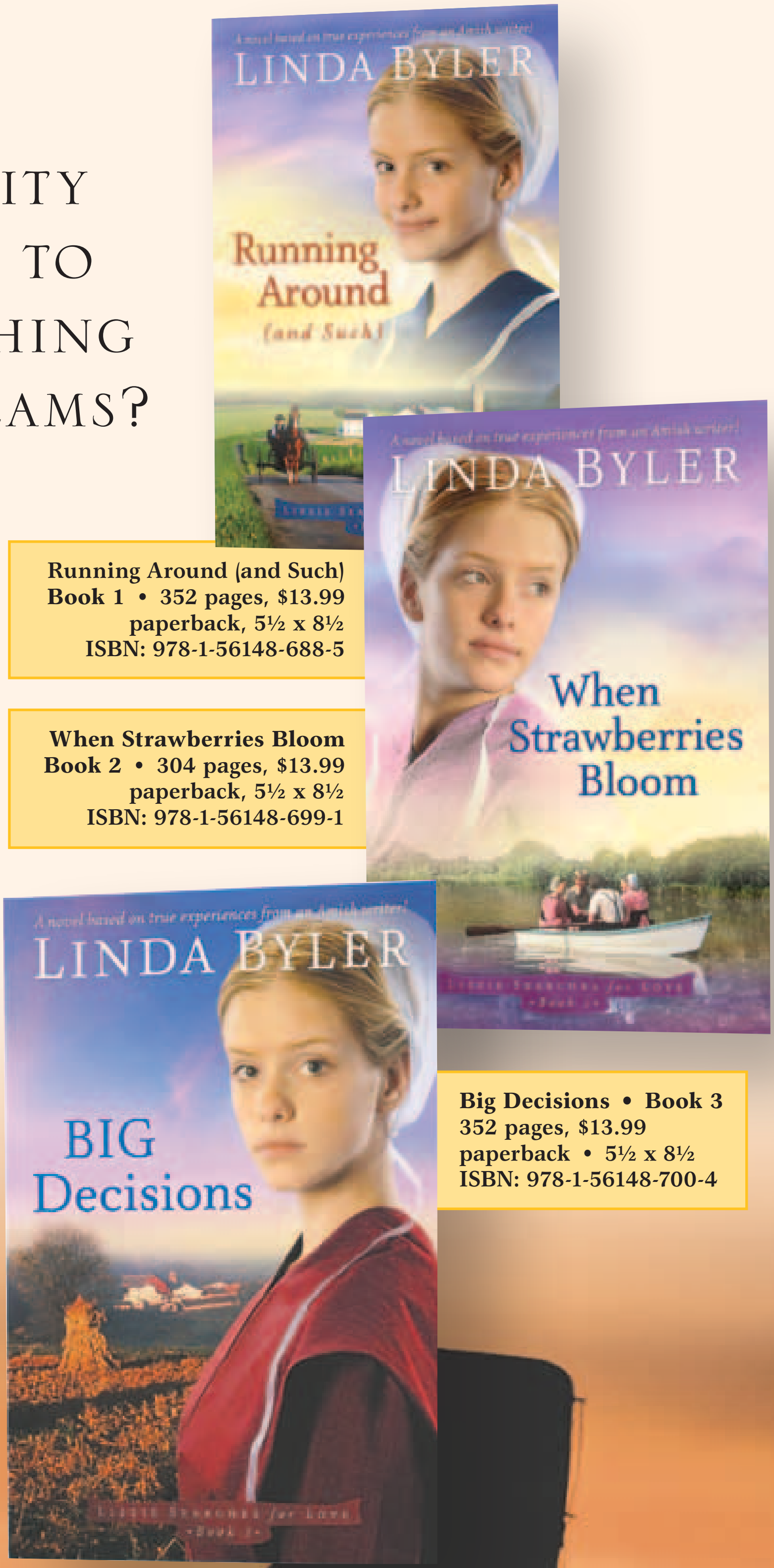
Amish Country's wonderful varieties of activities have, we hope, aroused your interest such that you'll be back on many a return visit (with the latest copy of Amish Country News in hand, of course). By then, we may well be planning your "Week Two!"

CAN LIZZIE FIND HAPPINESS IN HER *Amish* COMMUNITY OR WILL SHE HAVE TO SETTLE FOR SOMETHING LESS THAN HER DREAMS?

Growing up in a local Amish community, Linda Byler loved to read and write. In fact, she still does. An active member of the Amish church, Byler has captured the true experiences of growing up in the plain community in her novels.

The first book in the *Lizzie Searches for Love* series, ***Running Around (and Such)*** tells the story of Lizzie Glick's struggle to find happiness in her Amish community. Lizzie's sisters, Emma and Mandy, are ready to get married and settle into the traditional rhythm of having children and keeping house. But Lizzie isn't sure that's what she wants for her future. It isn't that Lizzie doesn't want to stay Amish. It's just that there's so much to figure out!

Lizzie's adventures continue in ***When Strawberries Bloom***, and ***Big Decisions***, the second and third books in the *Lizzie Searches for Love* series.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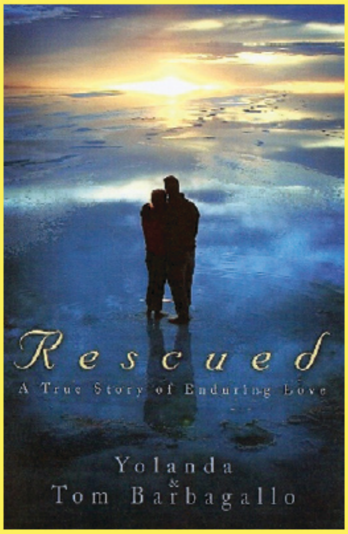

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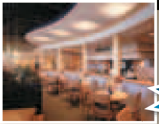
Michelle

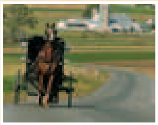
"I just finished reading your book and wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it. You have a great way with detail and a terrific sense of humor. I laughed out loud about some of the things you and Tom laughed about together...I especially enjoyed your stories about your daughters and the children you fostered and could relate to all the job changes you both went through. What a life you have had! Thank you for sharing it with me."
Carol

Making Memories.

#1 **Voted Lancaster's Favorite Hotel...Again & Again!**
– Lancaster Newspapers
2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010



Two restaurants & lounge



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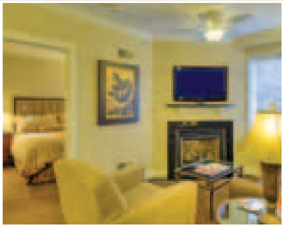
The Suites at Eden Resort



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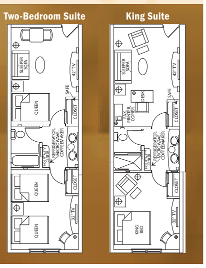
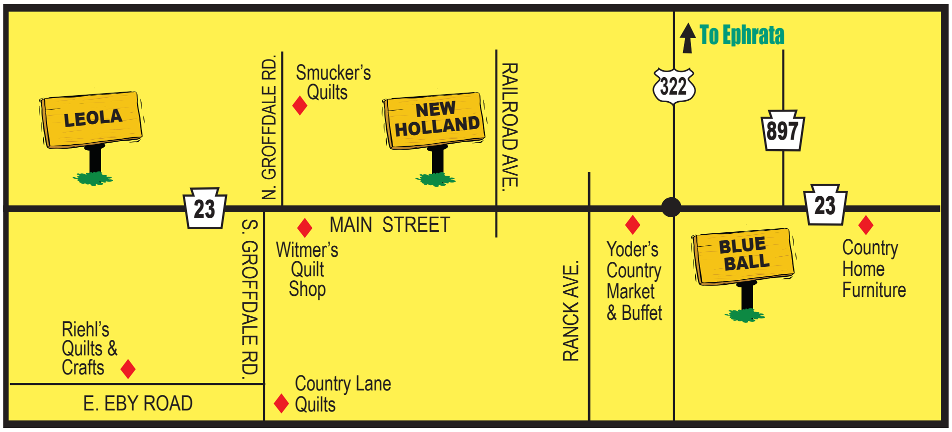


Welcome to New Holland • Blue Ball



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www.yoderscountrymarket.com

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The instability in Europe in the late 1600's spawned and nurtured the pioneer interest in the deep forest lands of Pennsylvania — 60 miles inland from Philadelphia. In 1681 William Penn received his 40,000 square-mile land grant to settle King Charles' debt to his father. Himself a Quaker, Penn had experienced religious persecution firsthand, and decided to establish his American colony based on complete religious freedom.

This entire century had been one of continued misery for the peasants of the Palatinate (western Germany). The Thirty Years War had raged across the area with barbaric ruthlessness. The peasant inhabitants fled to nearby Holland for refuge. And within a decade of the end of that conflict, King Louis XIV of France started a new religious war in the same general area. These Palatinate peasants were exhausted by war's desolation, and were ripe for a new start. Traveling land agents for William Penn's new colony found willing ears. In addition to religious freedom and a peaceful existence, Penn offered cheap land. The stated price was 100 English pounds for 5,000 acres. (At today's rate exchange, this would be less than $.06 an acre). By the year 1702, a goodly number of Palatinates had immigrated to Pennsylvania, and Queen Anne, newly reigning in England, was delighted that Penn was colonizing his immense grant without drawing off the population of Britain.

The area today called New Holland was practically covered by virgin forests—sturdy timbers of oak, ash, chestnut, and walnut. By 1728, William Penn had been dead for 10 years and his American colony, called

Pennsylvania, was being administered by a proprietary governor while the sale of land was formalized by patent deeds.

In 1802, when a post office was established and an official name was necessary, there was no dissension to naming the town New Holland.

These grateful people remembered how extremely kind the inhabitants of Holland were to them, with assistance thought to have included funds to cover the cost of the refugee German immigrants' ocean voyage.

This was no small matter when the alternative was indentured service for a period of years. For adults, indenture frequently meant four to seven years of labor without pay. Minors served until their 21st birthday. But still, William Penn's Quaker Pennsylvania was a liberation compared to the Europe they fled seeking freedom of religion, assembly and speech to all, hopefully, none of which we take for granted today.

OUR HOMETOWN KASE HAUS

By: Clinton Martin

One of the most common sights you can see in Amish Country is a small country road winding through acres of rich pastureland. The cows never seem to be in too much of a hurry as they lazily graze away the day. Thankfully, they don't have to be busy bees to be good cows, and we've got the delicious milk, ice cream, and other treats to show for it. But, what about cheese?

Well, you might have thought the noble art of "fromage" overlooked Lancaster County, but… think again! Even the world's most famous cheese regions would be jealous of our own hometown "Kase Haus" that is September Farm Cheese, singularly unique as this family owned and operated farm controls every single aspect of the cheese production.

They tend the pasture, care for the cows, collect the milk, produce the cheese, package it, and sell it – all within the bounds of their farm. But, keeping it local has in no way limited their creativity winning awards for both the dairy, and their delicious cheeses.

When visiting September Farm Cheese, and I absolutely suggest that you do, you will see cheese being made, taste the difference of small-batch, hand-made cheese, and of course peruse the cheese shop. In fact, a stop on your travels to September Farm Cheese combines so many activities that visitors to Amish Country seek out – tasting, shopping, exploring, and learning - that many actually end up with return trips on their minds before they leave the driveway.

I simply can't call this farm a factory, although places where cheeses are made typically are. Somehow "creamery" seems more appropriate. After your stop and taking it all in, drop me a note to let me know what you might dub this terrific little operation in the heart of paradise. The farm is located on Mill Road, just off of Route 322 about five miles east of Blue Ball. Turn right onto Mill Road, and watch for the sign – a mouse nibbling on cheese. To learn more call 610-273-3552 or log on to www.septemberfarmcheese.com.

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Making the Right Choice at Country Lane Quilts

Pick any back road in Lancaster County, and chances are you'll find a quilt shop somewhere along the winding turns and gentle hills. This bounty of sewn and stitched craft is an amazing asset to locals and visitors alike. After all, since every hand-made quilt is one-of-a-kind, and each shop has a different selection, the variety available in merely a few miles of driving is astounding. On the other hand, with so many storefronts beckoning, the choice can be overwhelming, especially to someone eagerly looking for the one perfect quilt for their home. Looking to narrow down your choices can be very helpful. Here are a few tips:

1. Buy from a reputable shop that will stand behind its product.

A shop's sales staff should give personal attention to your interests and be knowledgeable in what to look for in a quality quilt. They should be able to help you choose a quilt to fit the décor of the room where you plan to use it.

Visitors are fascinated by the intricate patterns of quilt makers in Amish Country.

2. Look for a quilt that is hand-quilted.

Newer, speedier technology enables some mass-produced spreads to now be machine quilted. Hand quilting makes the purchase worth much more for the hours involved. They truly are valuable and cherished works of art.

3. Know how many ladies worked on your quilt.

The most desirable quilts are quilted by one woman. Women quilt differently, and the quality of work varies. If you're looking for the finest, most uniform quality, try to stay away from quilts that were done at a "Quilting Bee" where four to ten ladies might have worked on the quilt.

4. Choose a quilt for its fine, intricate stitches.

Look at five or six quilts and observe the size of the stitches. A more valuable quilt will be one that has the tiniest stitches, the most stitches per inch. Stay away from a quilt that has large, uneven stitching.

5. Choose a quilt for the amount of handwork involved in quilting it.

The more intricate the workmanship and the amount of quilting, the greater the value of your quilt. Some quilts have 300 to 400 hours just in the quilting, not to mention the design, cutting, piecing, binding and finishing.

6. Choose a quilt for its overall beauty, as well as the colors and pattern you like best.

Quilts are priced according to the amount of handwork involved, the skill in doing the work,

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as well as the size and design of the quilt. You'll see many quilts in which the design, the piecing or quilting are clearly not of the same skill level.

7. Consider the use you will give your quilt.

If you just want something nice to throw on a bed that the kids and dog are likely to play on, buy one of the cheaper, machine-made quilts. But if you want a fine quilt to be displayed or passed down as a family heirloom, plan to spend several hundred dollars, perhaps even more. Finally, consider where the quilt will rest, making sure it fits with the room's décor.

Armed with all this knowledge, you'll want to start your journey at Country Lane Quilts, where we have seen many happy customers thanks to the helpful family running the shop. Country Lane Quilts also operates a bed & breakfast right on their farm. So, not only can you purchase a fine quilt, but you can wrap up in it that very night on the farm where it was sewn!

To find Country Lane Quilts, from Route 340 in the middle of the village of Intercourse, turn north onto Newport Road for approximately two miles. Turn right onto Groffdale Road and proceed for approximately three miles. You'll see the sign for Country Lane Quilts at the end of their farm lane.

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A Message from
A Best-Selling Amish Fiction Writer
to the Readers of Amish Country News

Dear Reader,

A few years ago I met an amazing family. The Esh family inspired my latest book, BESIDE STILL WATERS. Like the Sommer family – my characters in this book – the Eshes lost two daughters in a buggy and truck accident. Also, like the characters in my book, they moved from Indiana to Montana, where they became a part of a small, rural community – where they discovered God in new and amazing ways.

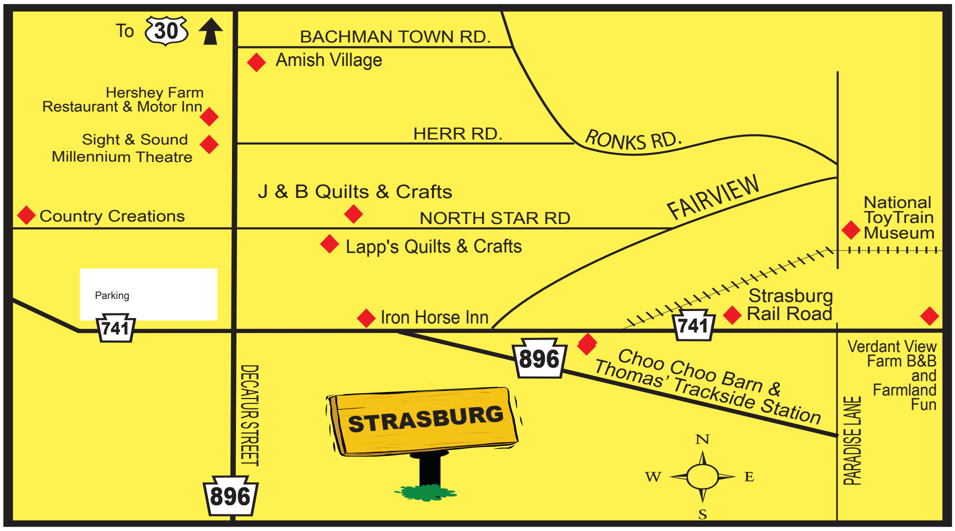
I was thankful to get to know the Esh family, who took me into their struggle with losing children and moving. They also shared their joy in discovering God in the middle of their faith walk. In addition to that, I got to know many other people from the community. I learned what the Amish believe and why. And as I studied these people I began to think about ways I could apply some of their slow-paced, traditional lifestyle into my own family. No, I'm not going to throw out my television or go buy a horse and buggy, but I have been making a conscious effort to turn off electronics and spend time with family and friends. I've also been inspired to do more cooking. My family appreciates this!

As readers pick up this story, I pray they will be able to consider things they need to leave behind – old beliefs, old struggles, old worries.

With care,
Tricia Goyer.

In the literary world a wave of Amish fiction writing has captured the hearts and minds of thousands and thousands of readers. We are grateful to Ms. Goyer, an author of best-selling Amish fiction, for her personal note to Amish Country News readers. Her books, published by B&H Publishing, are available at most bookstores nationwide.

Strasburg - A Town of Trains & Heritage



All aboard! Strasburg is a major destination all its own in PA Dutch Country, and home to many well known attractions. To name just a few --- the Strasburg Rail Road, Sight & Sound Theatres, Ghost Tours of Lancaster, Cherry Crest Adventure Farm, National Toy Train Museum, and the Choo Choo Barn. But you may not know much about the interesting history of this town...

Strasburg, named for the city in France, was actually "founded" by a Frenchman, Pierre Bezaillion, who traded with the Delaware Indians. The story goes he came to the area in 1693, as French fur traders opened up the first path through this area from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River.

As early as 1716, when the first wagon was used for hauling goods, the path became known as the Conestoga Road, and the wagons that traveled them eventually became known as Conestoga Wagons. Main Street Strasburg was developed

Continued on Page 27

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What I Love About Lancaster County

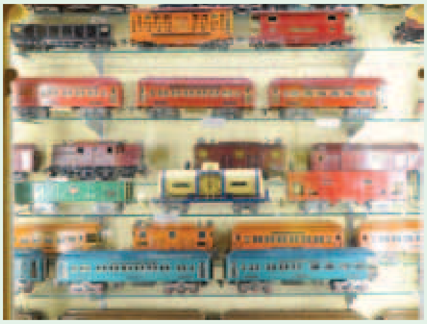
There's No Place Like Home

by John Luppino
National Toy Train Museum

October 1973. A 26 year-old reports for his first day of work as a "Dock Foreman in Training" at the Yellow Freight System terminal in East Petersburg. It has taken well over an hour to drive from Reading, PA.

U.S. 222 is a limited access highway only from the Brownstown Interchange to Route 30. The rest is under construction and the "old road" is mostly two-lane, no passing and choked with tourists and locals with very different ideas of what constitutes "safe driving."

Other than my brief foray to complete an application and sit for an interview, this was my first exposure to Lancaster County.



An amazing collection of model railroading.

Over the next 38 years I would live, work, play, marry and divorce in an area that I sometimes did not see as the "Garden Spot." I can say that we have "made peace" with each other in that time but it still has its days.

I really got to learn more about the County following the end of my career at Yellow Freight. My next life was running my own business and I began to meet people in various walks of life. Learning about the issues that influenced life and business was a must.

Various groups of people who had once appeared monolithic fractured into individuals with different thoughts, ideas, hopes and dreams. I like the idea that once you "get under the hood" of Lancaster County what you find is a large group of people who are willing to put aside differences to work together on something that will benefit many. This continuing willingness to help one another is a major reason I stayed when I could easily have moved.

Honesty is more common here than many people realize. Here is just one example that

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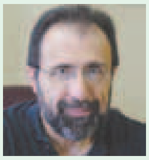
involves me personally. Some time ago, I dropped my card holder that contains my credit card, debit card, driver's license, etc. at the gas pumps at a local convenience store. I only discovered the loss the next day and retraced my steps. I got to the store and asked about lost and found. I described it to a manager who brought it out of her office. She said, "The next customer at the pump saw it on the ground and brought it in." Everything was still in it.

The County is a study in contrasts. You can pick up the energy of a city from the downtown area and leave it behind for a view of the country. Whether rolling farmland, forested hills, or placid streams and rivers, there is a lot of space to either get down or get away. I could name a number of places, people and things I like about Lancaster County but I keep coming back to one thing that for me sums it all up.

At evening, when the weather is good and the sun is out, I can sit at work and watch it slowly descend in the west. The view in that direction from the National Toy Train Museum is relatively unobstructed by man-made objects. The sky begins to change colors, the noise of the day stops and then you can hear the generators at the local Amish farms start up to run the milking parlors.

As dusk descends, even they are shutoff and then it is just birds and the occasional cow, or the sounds of a buggy on Paradise Lane. It took me a while to catch on but one evening as I sat there watching this free light show I said, "A sunset as good as Key West but with one thing that makes it better. It's home."



John V. Luppino is the Operations Manager at The National Toy Train Museum in Strasburg. The Museum has one of the largest publicly exhibited toy train collections in the U. S. He enjoys swing dancing and volunteering at several museums in the area. John and his dance shoes reside in East Lampeter Township.

Half a Century Old and Still Chugging Along!

Choo Choo Barn Celebrates 50 Years

Step back in time 50 years ago at the Choo Choo Barn in Strasburg, PA and you would see a model train display with six trains and six animations. Opening its doors in 1961, George Groff hand-crafted and built the Choo Choo Barn display for guests of all ages to enjoy. Passing his passion for trains and business along to his son Tom, the Choo Choo Barn is in good hands 50 years later as Tom expanded and updated the model train display to include 150 animations, 22 operating trains and 1,700 square feet of miniature fun. But he still does it the way his father did – all handcrafted…nothing from a kit!

The Groff family has taken its collective love of model railroading and shared it with generations of visitors. When you walk through the entrance at Choo Choo Barn, Traintown U.S.A.®, you will see a detailed display of Lancaster County in miniature. Whether it's your first or 50th visit, there is always something new to take in. Favorites include the classic, animated scene of an Amish barn raising, firefighters putting out a house fire, the moving circus acts, and the live fish swimming in a pond. As you walk along the display this season, look for the updated Dutch Wonderland scene, the Ferris wheel with hand-cast seats and custom lights, and the newly redesigned landscape.

Children then and now enjoy the amazing train layout at the Choo Choo Barn.

Be prepared to view the display in both daylight and starlight, as the entire room transforms every 10 minutes from day to night.

Anyone who appreciates hard-work and artistic ability will love the model train display. Serving as Tom's canvas, the display is a true work of art from this expert of model railroading. Every year Tom spends hundreds of hours tinkering with the display and creating new animations and landscapes. For the first time, starting Thanksgiving Day this year, the Choo Choo Barn will be transformed into a winter wonderland with holiday enhancements – an exceptional reason for a return visit to The Choo Choo Barn!

In celebration of the 50th anniversary, they are offering a special promotion for anyone who turns 50 between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011. To qualify, simply bring verification of your birth date and be prepared to NOT act your age.

Hours are 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. daily. A trip to the Choo Choo Barn won't break the bank with the low admission price of $7 for adults and $4 for children ages 3-11. We heartily suggest that as you travel through Amish Country, stop by the Choo Choo Barn and help celebrate 50 years of an ever-expanding artistry of model railroading!

Strasburg Continued from Page 24

Turn-of-the century life in Strasburg.

Main St. Strasburg circa 1900

Everyone waits for the Strasburg Railroad.

during the next half century as traffic on this road increased considerably and the first log houses appeared in the village about 1733.

Strasburg continued to flourish in the 18th century primarily because of its location along the major wagon routes between Philadelphia, Lancaster, and the Susquehanna River. It was one of the principal stopping stations and, with the heavy wagon traffic, there were as many as eight or ten taverns here. Most of the older houses along Main Street were at one point private schools and academies and with many of the structures still intact, the Strasburg Borough Council, in order to maintain the charm and historical significance of the Village, enacted an ordinance in 1970 that created a Historic District approximately two miles long and containing 193 buildings.

As Strasburg flourished, so did its neighbor to the east, Philadelphia. The commercial interests of Philadelphia pressured the State Legislature to improve the transportation network into their city. As a result, a series of canals along with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Roads were constructed. Strasburg residents became alarmed at the possibility of losing their commercial position and there soon emerged a charter for the Strasburg Rail Road to construct a rail line connecting Strasburg with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road main line near Paradise. Finally in the 1850's, trains were hauling freight and passengers.

About 100 years later, business had dwindled, and a severe storm in 1957 destroyed much of the track. It seemed the Rail Road had reached the end of the line. To the rescue came a group of local train enthusiasts who began bringing the Rail Road back to life in a totally new way. Having discovered they could actually make money transporting people rather losing it hauling freight, they added passenger cars and buildings, and today's Strasburg Rail Road was born, destined to become one of Dutch Country's top attractions.

Appropriately enough, the State decided to build an expanded Rail Road Museum of Pennsylvania across the street, the ideal place to preserve the history of railroading in Pennsylvania. With the other train attractions nearby, it's little wonder that Strasburg has earned the title of Train Town, USA!

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Night Life of Lancaster – A Deadly Experience

by Clinton Martin

The pastoral surroundings of Lancaster County are peaceful and quaint by day, but when the sun sets, and the cool night air begins to swirl through the suddenly emptied streets, the spooky side of Amish Country grasps the imagination. Follow in the footsteps of notorious Lancaster County residents long since dead, but don't go it alone. Luckily, you can keep close to the feeble light of a creaky lantern, held by your own **Ghost Tour of Lancaster** guide.

It doesn't feel like a bunch of made up stories, because they are not. Why write a script when all the chilling tales you can handle come from the macabre history of the Nation's oldest inland city? Guides materialize nightly, but you've got to call ahead to make your reservation. 717-687-6687. If you're too frightened to talk to anyone, go to www.ghosttour.com/lancaster. Prepare yourself for haunting tales of otherworldly vigils, fatal curses and star-crossed lovers as you experience 300 years of haunted history from the Red Rose City's thorny past!

Spine-tingling story-telling in the heart of Amish Country!

You've Not Seen This Before

A Visit to Smucker's Gourd Farm

by Clinton Martin

A gourd makes a naturally artistic canvas.

Along a winding road, the fields are dotted with a crop rarely seen. The interesting fruit of the vine in this case is the very versatile gourd! With an appearance like an oddly shaped pumpkin, these seemingly strange little fruits are adaptable for a myriad of uses. One local Amish farmer was introduced to them by a visitor to his farm, and, now, acre after acre of land produces the crop that is to fill the shop at Smucker Gourds.

Coming down the lane, the fields of gourds are a sight to see. Next year's merchandise quietly "aging!" Eventually, the gourds are harvested, cleaned, gutted, and whipped into an astonishing variety of art pieces…bowls, canisters, baskets, bird houses, purses, salt & pepper shakers, and lots more.

Many of the gourds you see at the shop are hand-painted by the Smucker family. If you visit in the month of June, make sure to plan on stopping by during the annual Pa Gourd Society Gourd Festival, truly an event as unique as you'll discover anywhere. Until then, I promise you a fascinating stop at the Smucker farm where it's always fun to see what new creations the Smucker family has come up with from the latest harvest. Smucker Gourds is located at 317 Springville Road, Kinzers PA 17538 (Route 897, 1.5 miles north of Route 340 east of Intercourse).

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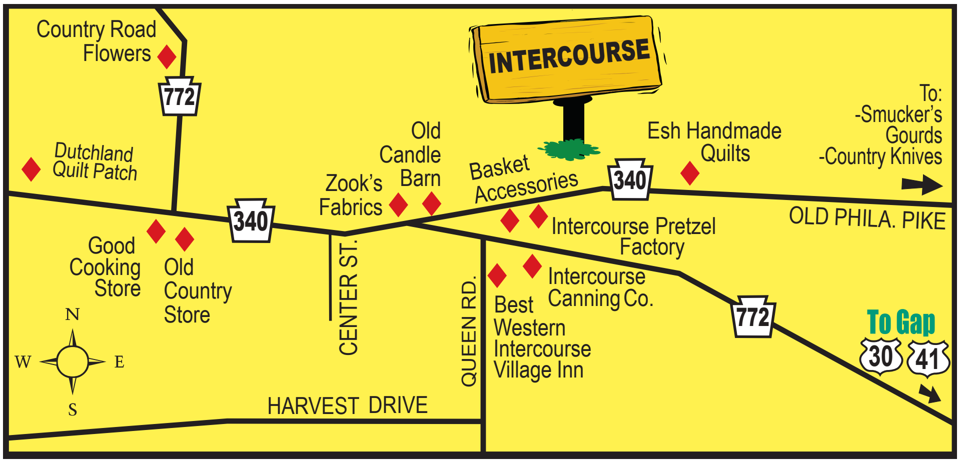

Perhaps no other town in the entire country can claim its fame on one simple thing --- its name. Harrison Ford drove a buggy past the road sign on a memorable visit in the Hollywood blockbuster hit of the movie Witness. For years people have postmarked “Intercourse” on envelopes, and the jokes from visitors who travel through Bird-in-Hand to Intercourse are endless. There are several theories for the name, but that which we find most plausible follows.

Around 1730, the Old Provincial Highway (now Route 340) was laid out to connect Philadelphia with Lancaster. Conestoga wagons hauled freight back and forth between the two cities. Providing rest for travelers and horses, taverns sprouted along the way, becoming centers for news, gossip, and commerce. The construction of a log tavern in 1754 at the intersection of Newport Road and the Highway took “Cross Keys” as its name.

It remained such until 1814, when the name was changed to Intercourse as part of a failed real estate scheme of a Mr. George Brungard, who had acquired 48 acres of nearby land and attempted to lay out a town site and divide it into sections for sale by a lottery, advertising “151 handsome building lots of $250 each to be drawn for by number.” Renaming the town made sense, as intercourse had a common usage referring to the pleasant mutual fellowship and frequent intermingling which were so common in the informal atmosphere of the quiet country village.

Over time, Brungard’s scheme begat others. As recently as 1971, an enterprising soul tried to take advantage of the town’s name by selling deeds for one-inch square plots of Intercourse to visitors. Creative, but nonetheless a failure. By 1880, Intercourse had a population of 280 with a post office that actually moved among stores or restaurants as owners hoped visits by residents would increase their business.

One of the most photographed spots in the County.

The local stagecoach service started around 1898 as “a single horse conveyance similar to a market wagon, with a roll-up curtain and double set of seats.” When the stagecoach driver knew of passengers beforehand, their comfort on cold days was added to with the placement of hot bricks heated in the oven, and wrapped in newspaper to preserve their warmth.

As the days of the dirt road drew to a close, so too did the stagecoach era. In 1923 a Transit Company was organized and bus service initiated to and from Lancaster. While “many of the Amish residents of the area were anxious to see the line started, they did not want to invest in stock of the Company. Instead they bought books of tickets which were really prepaid bus fares.” Enough money was raised to buy a Mack Auto Bus for $6,800. It held 25 passengers and even had solid rubber tires!

Today Intercourse has been recognized as a “foodie” town by the Visitor’s Bureau. With the Intercourse Canning Company welcoming visitors from around the world to sample and

Continued on Page 33

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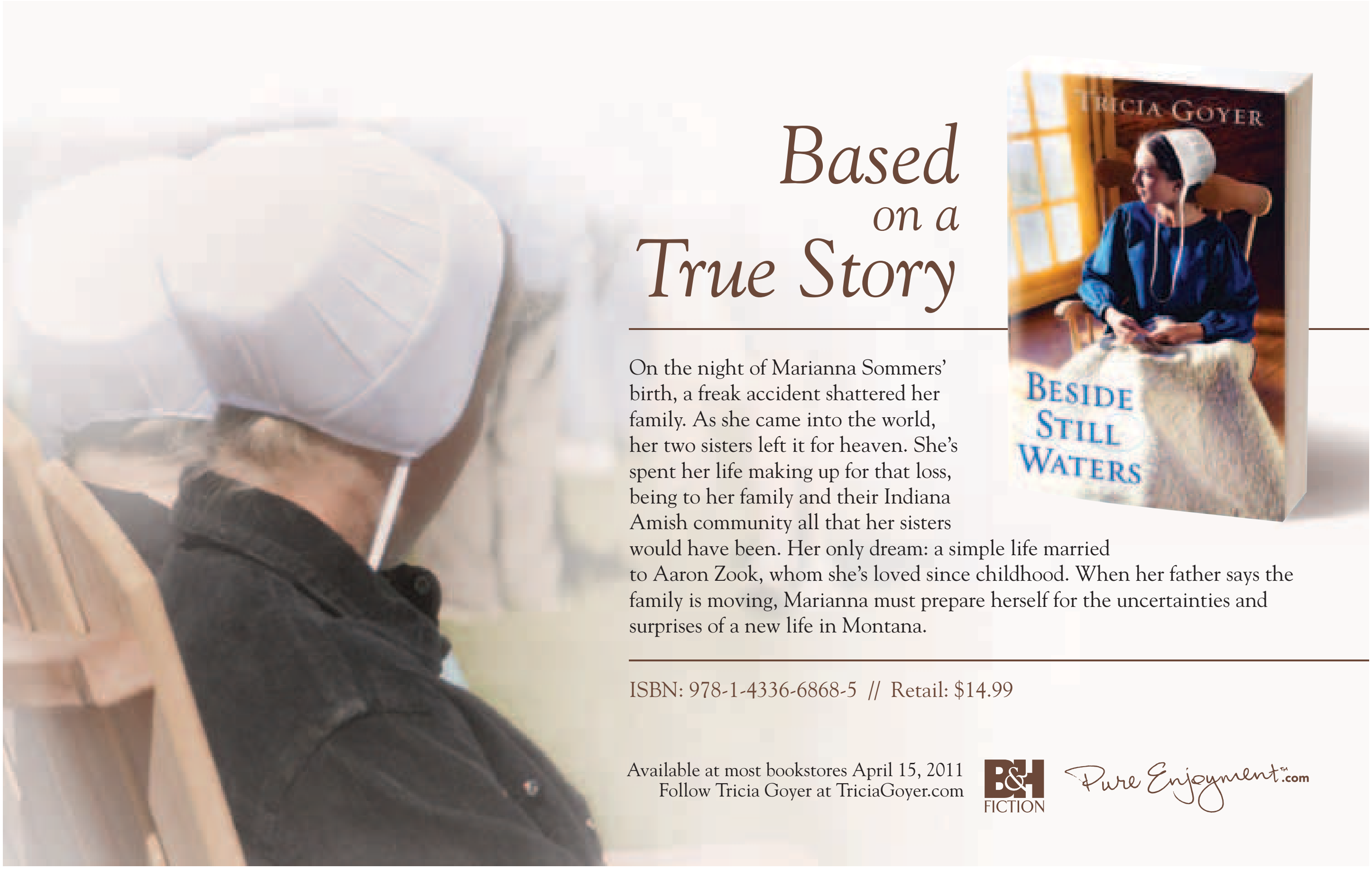

Based on a True Story

On the night of Marianna Sommers' birth, a freak accident shattered her family. As she came into the world, her two sisters left it for heaven. She's spent her life making up for that loss, being to her family and their Indiana Amish community all that her sisters would have been. Her only dream: a simple life married to Aaron Zook, whom she's loved since childhood. When her father says the family is moving, Marianna must prepare herself for the uncertainties and surprises of a new life in Montana.

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Continued from Pg 30

purchase its much sought after lines of jams, jellies and canned fruits and vegetables; the Intercourse Pretzel Factory making artisan hand-rolled pretzels; and, the restaurant at the Intercourse Best Western Inn serving up home-made PA Dutch specialties throughout the day, there's plenty to satisfy one's hunger.

Some of the town's most interesting specialty shops include Dolly Bodacious for vintage linen and jewelry; Country Road Flowers for beautiful arrangements; the Old Candle Barn for candles and a whole lot more; Zook's Fabrics with both great prices and selection; and Basket Accessories with its selection of Amish and other baskets.

The Old Country Store with its amazing quilts for sale, also has a museum on the second floor, and nearby are the Village Pottery and the Main Street Book Shop. Brand new this year is The Good Cooking Store, with all kinds of wonderful things for the kitchen.

Just to the west of town is Peaceful Valley Furniture, with an amazing array of items for the home. Heading east you'll find Esh's Handmade Quilts, a visitor favorite right on an Amish dairy farm, and a bit further Country Knives, an unexpected find that truly is "one sharp store."

Over the years, this fascinating village certainly has changed, but slowly, and, It seems to us, that sometimes the things that grow the slowest are the ones that endure the longest.

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Your Guide to Guides!

Certified Amish Country Tour Guide JoAnn Raber pauses a moment before her next tour.

by Brad Igou

I've traveled quite a bit, and enjoyed tour guides all over the world. But we rarely learn much about the person giving the tour. So we thought it would be interesting to profile some of the certified guides conducting Amish Country Tours from the Amish Experience on Route 340.

This month we'd like you to meet JoAnn Raber. When JoAnn starts her tour of Amish Country, some visitors are surprised by her accent. "By the time I get to the bake shop and pronounce the word 'coffee,' some of them know I'm from New York!"

She first heard about the Amish when her fifth grade teacher in Queens talked about them. Little JoAnn found this hard to believe, and vowed that one day she "must check it out."

She finally got to Amish Country on her honeymoon in January, 1966. She still remembers how beautiful the scenery was with a light covering of snow. It was the first of many family vacations here. Her boys used to say she'd be a tour guide some day because she'd always be pointing things out. But she'd answer, "No way!"

When the boys grew up and family responsibilities ended, she and her husband made the move here. "Sometimes you're drawn to something and it's meant to be." She saw an ad in the newspaper for guides at the Amish Experience, and she started working there in 1999.

Between learning to do tours and being a mail carrier in the Amish area around Gordonville, her knowledge and friendships with the Amish grew rapidly.

"I like the privilege of being able to be the bridge between two cultures. Visitors come here with different concepts about the Amish people, but they are just human beings, too. I want to make each tour feel special, and I try hard not to have a cookie cutter tour," she notes, with a sparkle in her eyes.

JoAnn is especially pleased when she inspires someone to learn more about the Amish. Who knows, maybe she will ignite that spark in a future tour guide, just like her elementary teacher did those many years ago!

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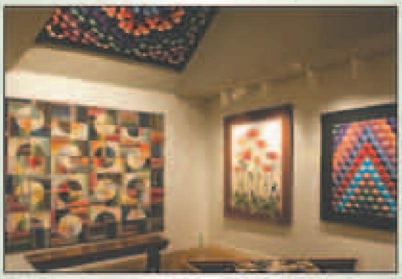

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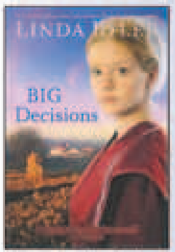

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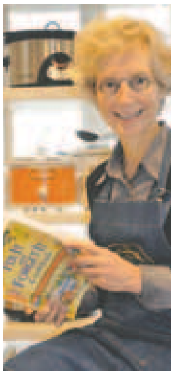
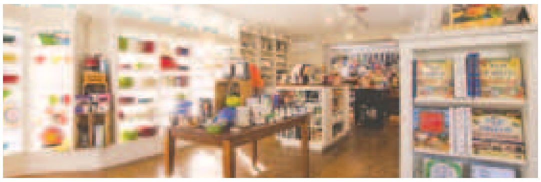

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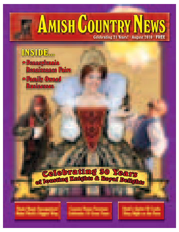


AUGUST

Events and Happenings

SEPTEMBER

Family Owned Businesses

OCTOBER

Annual Dining Guide

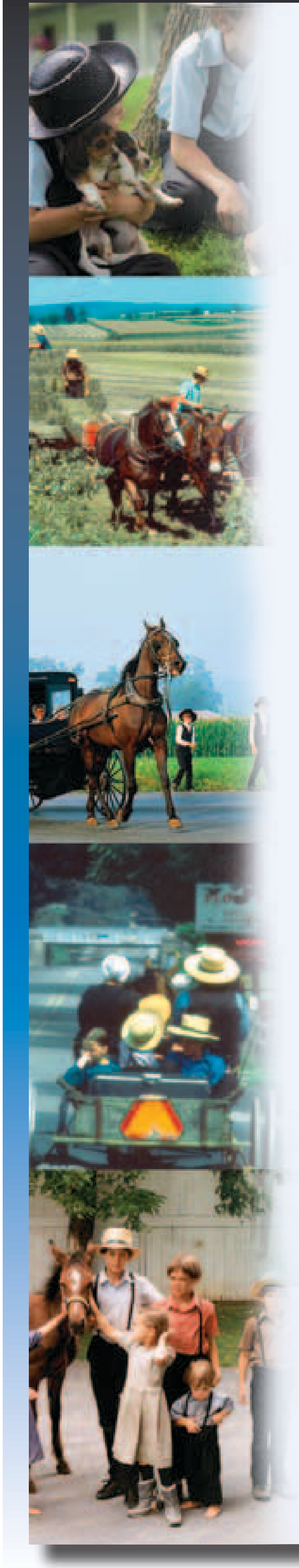
HOLIDAYS

Annual Shopping Guide

2011 Amish Series

by Brad Igou

Pay Unto Caesar: The Amish and Social Security (Part 1 of 2)



Many people think the Amish do not pay taxes. They do. But they have been exempted from paying Social Security. This story is little known to the general public today. It is full of drama, clashes with the government, issues of religious freedom, politics, and much more. For writing this 5-part series, I was privileged to have access to many original materials and personal letters.

Part 1: The Dispute Begins

In 1935, a bill known as "The Social Security Act" passed Congress. Included in this act was "Old Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance," provided for those in industry and commerce, and extended to include farm operators in 1955. What was once a benefit had now become a law. The tax was to be reported at the rate of 3% of income up to an established limit.

While the Amish have no objection "paying unto Caesar what is Caesar's," they do have problems with commercial insurance. In a sense, insurance was seen as not trusting in God. Insurance plans were a worldly operation. Plus, the Amish view of separation of church and state normally meant not accepting money from government programs, especially something viewed as welfare. No one could deny that this program was one of paying money to the government and then receiving a benefit in return.

Perhaps most importantly to the Amish, the care of the elderly is seen as the responsibility of the family and community, not the government. Whether it be additions built onto the main house where grandparents "retire," benefit sales to pay large medical bills, or the community effort of a barn-raising, the Amish truly try to "take care of their own."

An IRS press release outlined what happened immediately after the law went into effect...

In the fall of 1956, the IRS district director at Cleveland held meetings with Amish farmers and their church officials in an effort to solicit cooperation and voluntary compliance with the laws we have to administer. At these meetings, it was explained that the self-employment levy is a tax and that it would be the responsibility of the IRS to enforce this tax.

As a result of these meetings and of letters sent to the individuals involved, the majority of Amish farmers in that general area voluntarily remitted the tax. With respect to those who refused, it became apparent that some did not wish to contravene the dictates of their church, but they also did not want "trouble" with the IRS.

Thus, a portion of these farmers did not pay the tax, but did make the execution of liens possible by maintaining bank accounts which covered the tax.

If things had stopped here, our story would be over. But the above "arrangement" wasn't really satisfactory. Even the Amish recognized that allowing the government to take the money from their bank accounts wasn't much different from simply paying the money voluntarily. One Amishman was quoted in a November, 1962 Reader's Digest article as saying, "Allowing our members to shift their interdependence on each other to dependence upon any outside source would inevitably lead to the breakup of our order."

A group of Amish presented a petition to Congress, with 14,000 signatures. The Amish questioned what possible harm they could do by not paying into Social Security. "We do not want to be burdensome, but we do not want to lose our birthright to everlasting glory, therefore we must do all we can to live our faith!" Nothing changed.

The IRS press release noted that...

The current problem stems from the "hard core" group of Old Order Amish farmers who closed out their bank accounts and made such levy action impossible. As a result, the IRS was forced to collect 130 delinquent taxpayer accounts from Amish farmers in the past two years.

Since the IRS was thwarted by the closing out of bank accounts, they next tried to attach checks for the amount owed to cooperatives that bought milk from the Amish. Most co-op officials refused to do this. The IRS saw only one alternative --- to seize property. In the case of the Amish, that usually meant cows and horses.

Next issue --- Part 2: The Amish vs. the IRS

at Plain & Fancy Farm

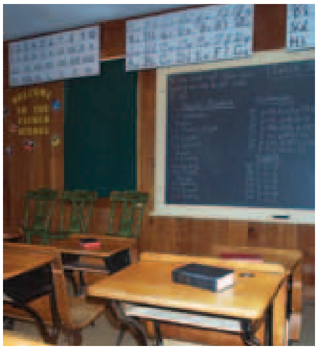
Last year marked the 51st anniversary of three of Lancaster's premiere attractions, all at one location on the AAA designated Scenic Cultural Byway, Route 340, mid-way between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse.

Plain & Fancy Farm celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2009 as the very first family-style restaurant. It remains a legendary dining experience. At the same time, Amish Country Tours (Dutchland Tours) began the first regularly scheduled tours for visitors through the scenic Amish farmlands. And 1959 also marked the opening of the Amish Country Homestead, the only Amish house tour designated a Heritage Site by Lancaster County.

Amish House Tour Unravels Riddles

Amish people wouldn't appreciate visitors walking through their homes all day…nor would you! So the best way to see the inside of a house is on a tour. At the Amish Country Homestead, the staff is committed to interpreting the changing Amish lifestyle. Rather than a museum, it has the feel of a real, "lived in" home. Guides take visitors on a fascinating 45-minute tour through the nine rooms. Discover how church is held in the home and hear the singing. See how Mom does her laundry---with a gasoline engine! Upstairs learn about Plain dress, while the kids enjoy the marble rollers.

The Fisher Amish Schoolroom is where you (or the kids) can sit at actual Amish school desks and learn how all eight grades are taught in one room. An Amish schoolteacher helped decorate the room to give it the feel of a real school. It's all included in the house tour.



Interpreting the ever-changing Amish culture respectfully and accurately is no easy task. The authenticity of the Amish Country Homestead resulted in its designation as the only Heritage Site Amish house tour in Lancaster County.

Amish Hi-Tech

In 1995, a new concept in interpreting Amish life debuted when the Amish Experience F/X Theater became only the third "experiential" theater in North America. The goal of this one-of-a-kind project was to give a more personal, intimate view of the Amish, connecting past to present. Rather than a somber documentary, the story goes inside an Amish family as their son Jacob struggles to decide whether to remain in the Amish faith.

An important missing link in most tellings of the Amish story is the persecution of the Anabaptists in Europe and the perilous journey to America. Rather than observe, visitors will now feel a part of history as special effects, including an amazing technology called "Pepper's Ghost," combine with smoke, wind, rain, and fire effects in a wrap-around barnyard setting.

A superb blending of entertainment and education, this touching and exciting production has moved some people to tears and children to exclaim "Wow!" This show, which has been called "400 years of history in 40 minutes of magic," can only be seen here in Lancaster, so be sure to make it a part of your visit. (Shows on the hour.)

Where the Amish Live & Work

Visitors who simply drive around looking at Amish farms rarely come away with much insight into the unique culture that attracts people from around the world. Amish Country Tours provide certified guides to take visitors down the backroads, deep into the farmlands and scenery that is as beautiful now as it was 50 years ago. Guides offer fascinating information on

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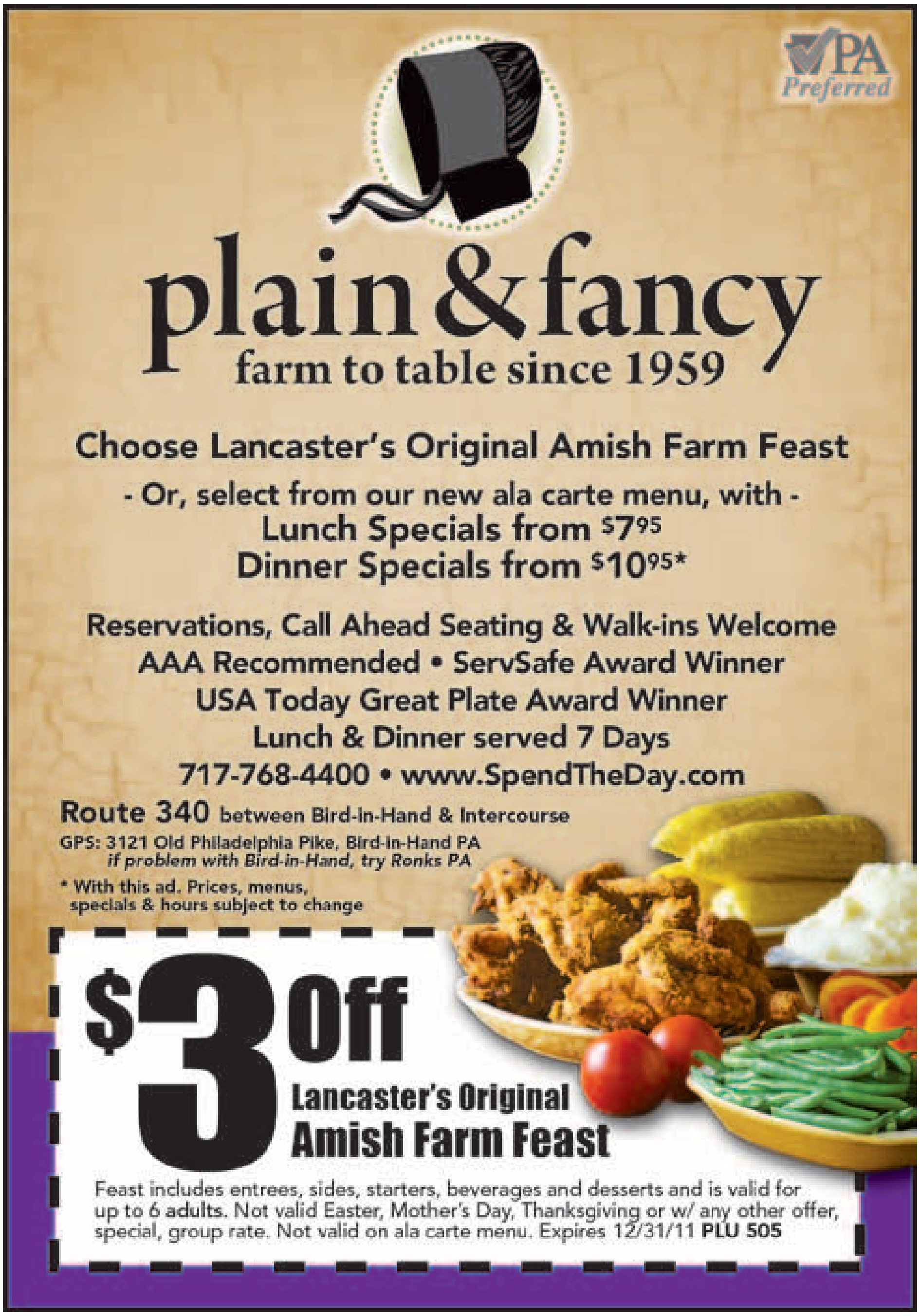

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one-room schools, farming practices, "cottage industries," wedding customs, and more. Did you know there are Amish millionaires?

Amish Farmland Tours	
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But you are not just sitting on the 14-passenger shuttle the whole time. Whenever possible, a stop is made at an actual Amish farm. Other stops may include a local bakeshop, roadside stand, or craft shop. Having a guide is recommended over tape tours, which are often outdated and can never answer questions about special activities you may see that day. Purchase tickets for this 90-minute tour online at AmishExperience.com.

A Lancaster Original

Amos, Ben, Manny and Elmer are the Amish farmers who supply the Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant with sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon, cabbage, broccoli, squash, peppers and onions. These neighbors, and the neighbors before them, have helped Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant go "from farm to table" for over 50 years. The restaurant is AAA recommended, a PA Preferred and ServSafe award winner, and the Pennsylvania recipient of USA Today's Great Plate Award.

The Amish Farm Feast

Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant is best known for being Lancaster County's original family-style restaurant. The all-you-can-eat Amish Farm Feast includes your entrees, side dishes, starters, desserts and beverages. Enjoy fried chicken, roast beef, chicken pot pie, baked sausage, real mashed potatoes, buttered noodles, green and yellow string beans, dried sweet corn, chow chow, cole slaw, raisin bread, rolls and apple butter, lemonade, iced tea, hot tea, coffee, sour cream apple crumb pie, shoo-fly pie and vanilla ice cream. A $3 off coupon valid for each adult in the party can be found adjacent to this article.

The New "ala carte" Menu

The restaurant also offers a new ala carte menu featuring mouth watering appetizers, signature soups and salads, charbroiled burgers and sandwiches, and made-from-scratch entrees and platters. The ala carte menu is also a great value with Lunch Specials from $7.95 and Dinner Specials from $10.95.

The Country Store

Find books, videotapes, candles, souvenirs and local handcrafts, and more. Explore The Country Store's collection of traditional Amish clothing, straw hats, bonnets, toys and dolls, and discover new treasures to adorn your kitchen and home. You'll find seasonal items as well as Christmas decorations, available year-round. The store also features Kitchen Kettle jams and jellies, bakery fresh items from Miller's Bakery, and Plain & Fancy chow chow and apple butter.

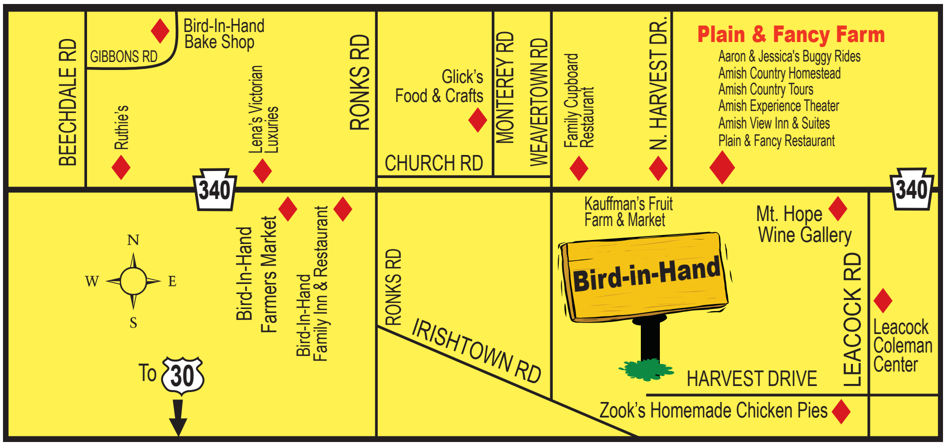
AmishView Inn & Suites

While you're at Plain & Fancy Farm, you're invited to stroll up and visit AmishView Inn & Suites, a classically beautiful hotel that features elegant accommodations and incredible views. If time permits, a front desk representative can provide you with a quick tour of the hotel. The indoor pool, fitness center, arcade, whirlpools and fireplaces make AmishView perfect for an intimate getaway, family vacation, or corporate retreat. Complimentary hot country breakfast, wire-less internet, HBO, DVD players, special amenities and kitchenettes come with every room.

Where It All Began

With all of these amenities and attractions in one beautiful location surrounded by Amish farmland, the Amish Experience at Plain & Fancy is the ideal starting point to enjoy all that the area has to offer as you create your own special Lancaster County experience!

Welcome to the Village of Bird-in-Hand



Sharing the road in Bird-in-Hand.

Of the many unique village names that dot the Amish Country map, one of the more interesting is Bird-in-Hand. When celebrating its 250th Anniversary (1734 – 1984), a commemorative booklet outlined a brief history of the town… William Penn, an English Quaker, had founded the colony of Penn's Woods (Pennsylvania), and settlers began arriving from Europe in the early 1700's, moving westward from the port city of Philadelphia.

The trip by stagecoach for passengers, or Conestoga wagon with freight and merchandise, lasted several days. Inns were built every few miles, identified with signs held by an iron pole or attached to the side of the building. The reason for these signs was twofold. First, they could be understood by all nationalities as most travelers were either English or German-speaking people, but other languages were not uncommon. Secondly, many teamsters or wagoneers were poorly educated and could not read. If they were given orders to stop at a certain inn, they were able to do so by recognizing the artwork on the signboard.

The legend of the naming of Bird-in-Hand dates to the time when the Old Philadelphia Pike was being laid out. By 1734, road surveyors were making McNabb's Hotel their headquarters rather than returning to Lancaster every day

Continued on Page 33

Celebrating Our 38th Anniversary

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Cinnamon Rolls
Shoo-Fly Pie Our Specialty

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- Sweet corn, beans, tomatoes, pumpkins, berries, asparagus in season from Lancaster County farmers

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Stop By Our Bakery & Gift Shop

Be sure to visit our famous bake shop, where you can purchase some of the best goodies found in the area, including shoo fly pies and sticky buns – all baked fresh daily. Don't forget to check out our unique gift shops. We cater to so much more than PA Dutch mementos. Shop for family and friends or just pamper yourself with a well-deserved gift.

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Farmers Market

The Finest In Local Farm Market Shopping

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JANUARY			★	★
FEBRUARY			★	★
MARCH			★	★
APRIL	★		★	★
MAY	★		★	★
JUNE	★		★	★
JULY	★	★	★	★
AUGUST	★	★	★	★
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OCTOBER	★	★	★	★
NOVEMBER	★		★	★
DECEMBER			★	★

MARKET OPEN ON DAYS MARKED

Route 340, Bird In Hand, PA • (717) 393-9674

Continued from Page 33

for lodging. When discussing whether they should stay at their present location or return to Lancaster to spend the night, one of them said, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The sign in front of the inn, which became known as the Bird-in-Hand Inn, is known to have once "portrayed a man with a bird in his hand and a bush nearby, in which two birds were perched. The last hand-painted sign featuring the bird in hand was done by Benjamin Elmer Leaman and his artwork merely portrayed a bird in a hand." Variations of this sign appear throughout the town today.

McNabb's Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1851. By the following year, a three-story hotel was built to replace it. More recently, it was Bitzer's Hotel before becoming the present Village Inn of Bird-in-Hand, a beautiful bed and breakfast property. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County states that the existing brick building "may be one of the few 19th century inns in the context of a small town in Lancaster County, which survives with a high degree of architectural integrity." It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

When referring to their bird in hand symbol, some residents say that the bird nestled in the human hand indicates friendship, comfort, and hospitality, all of which you'll discover in this delightful little village of shops, farmers markets and eateries.

Bird-in-Hand
Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord
Route 340, Bird-in-Hand • (717) 768-1500
www.Bird-in-Hand.com

$2 OFF Dinner Smorgasbord
or $1 OFF Breakfast or Lunch Smorgasbord
Not valid with any other offer or discount.
Limit 2 adults per coupon.
Expires July 31, 2011.
Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord
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July 14 and 28 and August 11 and 18, 2011
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6 pm Tractor-drawn wagon ride to and from the Smucker farm (alternative transportation available)
6:30 pm Farm fresh dinner at the Smucker Farm
8 - 9 pm Informal gathering with live music around the Smucker fire pit

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Child 3 and Under Free

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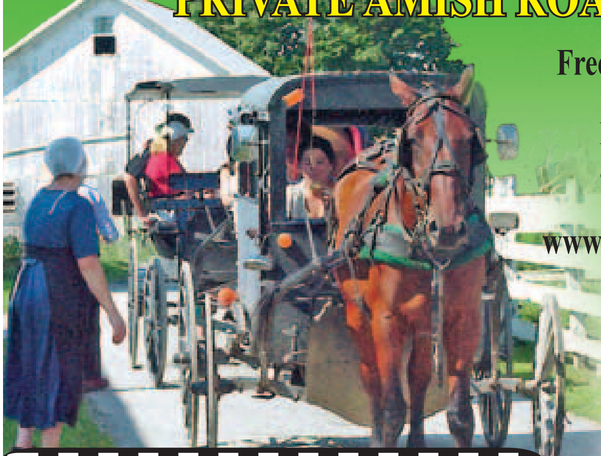
"Amish Town Tour" Adults $12 Child $6
A 4 Mile Tour Passing an Amish Village, Businesses and an All Amish Farm Area. Experience Real Amish Life (30-35 minutes) * Coupon

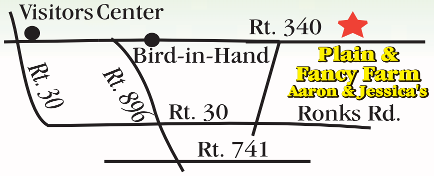
"Amish Farm Tour" Adults $17 Child $11
Visit A Real Amish Farm. Tour the Barn, See the Cows and Big Clydesdale Horses. America The Way It Used to Be. (50-60 minutes)
Our Customer Preferred Ride

Ask about our longer rides.



20% OFF our Cookie Run Ride!

Visit a real Amish farm. Get off and see the cows and Clydesdale work horses.



After 5 Activities

Looking for something to do during the evening hours? There are always movies, shopping malls, outlets, comedy clubs, and lounges at the larger hotels. Here's a list of interesting ideas for the entire family.

- **Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides**
  768-8828 • Till Dusk
- **Amish VIP Tours**
  768-8400 • 2.5 hour tour begins at 4:30pm
- **Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre**
  898-1900 • Call for Show Times
- **Dutch Haven**
  687-0111 • Till 9:00pm or later
- **Ghost Tour of Lancaster County**
  687-6687 • Nightly By Reservation
- **High Sports**
  626-8318 • Call for Hours
- **National Christmas Center**
  442-7950 • Till 6:00pm
- **Penn Cinema**
  717-626-7720 • Call for Show Times
- **Sight & Sound Theatre**
  717-687-4220 • 7:30pm Show on Select Days
- **Strasburg Railroad**
  687-7522 • Call For Hours
- **That Fish Place – That Pet Place**
  299-5691 • Till 9:00pm
- **WITNESS Movie Covered Bridge Tour**
  768-8400 • 2.5 hour tour begins at 4:30pm

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1st farm on left. Look for sign.
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Feed the Animals
Buy a Pie!
Quilted bags sewn on the farm
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Expires 7/31/11

Sunday Activities

For Plain People, Sunday is a day of rest, but there are many things to do in Amish Country on Sundays. Plan ahead and save some of these for your Sunday sight-seeing.

- **Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides**
  768-8828 • 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **Aimee & Daria's Doll Outlet**
  687-8118 • 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **Amish Country Homestead**
  768-8400 • 10:30am to 4:15pm
- **Amish Country Tours**
  768-8400 • 11:00am & 1:30pm
- **Amish Experience Theater**
  768-8400 • 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **Amish Village**
  687-8511 • 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **Antiques Capital USA**
  Adamstown PA
  antiquescapital.com
- **Brickerville House Restaurant**
  626-0377 • 7:00am-2:00pm
- **Choo Choo Barn**
  687-7911 • 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **Crayola Factory**
  610-515-8000 • 11:00am to 5:00pm
- **Crystal Cave**
  610-683-6765 • 9:00am to 7:00pm
- **Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre**
  898-1900 • call for show times
- **Dutch Haven**
  687-0111 • 9:00am to 9:00pm
- **Ephrata Cloister**
  733-6600 • 12:00pm to 5:00pm
- **Ghost Tour of Lancaster County**
  687-6687 • Nightly by reservation
- **High Sports**
  626-8318 • call for hours
- **Intercourse Canning Company**
  768-0156 • 10:00am to 4:00pm
- **Lancaster Brewing Company**
  391-6258 • Tour at 3:00pm
  (reservations suggested)
- **Mount Hope Wine Gallery**
  768-7194 • 11:00am to 6:00pm
- **National Christmas Center**
  442-7950 • 10:00am to 6:00pm
- **National Toy Train Museum**
  687-8976 • 10:00am to 5:00pm
- **Penn Cinema**
  717-626-7720 • Call for Show Times
- **Renninger's Antique Mall**
  336-2177 • 7:30am to 4:00pm
- **Shupp's Grove Antique Market**
  484-4115 • 7:00am to 4:00pm
- **Strasburg Railroad**
  687-7522 • Ticket Window Opens at 10:00am
- **That Fish Place – That Pet Place**
  299-5691 • 10:00am to 6:00pm

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AND MORE!
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any one spring/summer jacket
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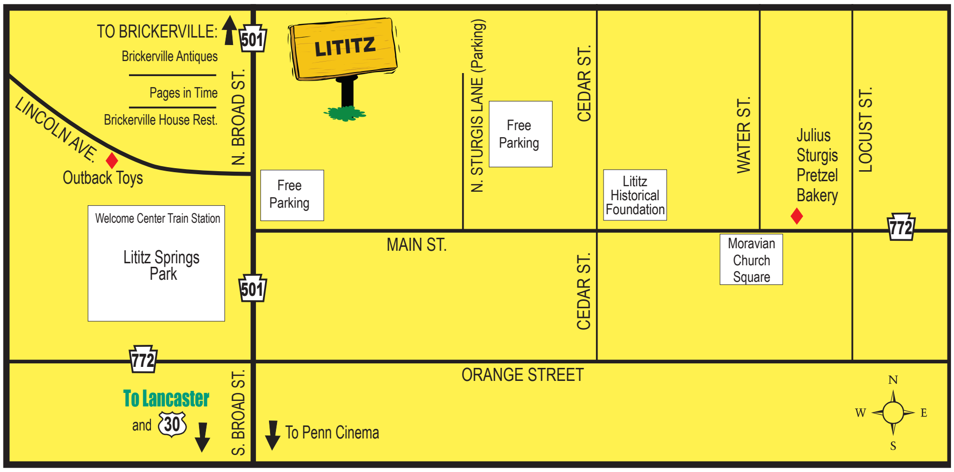
Historic Lititz • A Hometown Treasure



There really is no place quite like Lititz, and visitors should plan time there while in Amish Country. Along with dozens of unique storefronts of family owned specialty shops, Lititz Springs Park, and its idyllic setting are a throwback to a quieter America. Indeed the town's spectacular 4th of July Celebration, begun in 1818, is reputedly the oldest continuing community-wide observance in the United States.

The Lititz story is tied to that of the Moravian faith in Bohemia. It was in the present day Czech Republic that John Hus founded the Moravian Church in 1457. Since this was 60 years before Luther's Reformation, the Moravians may lay claim as the oldest organized Protestant Church. But over the course of the Thirty Years War, its 200,000 members nearly disappeared.

As was the case with other persecuted religious groups in Europe, many Moravians sought freedom by taking the perilous journey to the New World, arriving in the early 1700's, with the main settlements in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. In 1755 the town actually took the name Lititz, the German spelling for Lidice, where European reformers has taken refuge in the 15th century.

In addition to mission work, music and education were important to the Moravians. In fact, the Lititz schoolhouse erected in 1746 marked the beginnings of what was to be Linden Hall, the oldest continuously operating residence school for girls in the United States.

For one hundred years, Moravian church members were the only people permitted to live in the town. A Brothers' House and Sisters' House were erected for the unmarried men and women, although they did not live communally. It was not until 1855 that non-Moravians were allowed to own their own homes. The complex of buildings comprising the Moravian congregation is well worth seeing, particularly the church built in 1787.

Two names are linked forever with the history of Lititz --- Sturgis and Sutter. It was Julius Sturgis who opened the first commercial pretzel bakery in the New World in Lititz. The year was

Continued on Page 45

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Amish Visit-in-Person Tours

An Official Heritage Tour

by Brad Igou

Lancaster County, through its Planning Commission, administers a nationally acclaimed heritage program designating sites and artisans as authentic representations of aspects of local culture. Designation is through a rigorous process that includes interpretive and authenticity requirements, as well as being "visitor ready."

In 2010, the first and, thus far, the only tour to have received this prestigious designation is the Amish Visit-In-Person Tour, offered by Amish Country Tours. The "Amish V.I.P. Tour" provides an intimate, interactive experience directly with the Amish. Introduced experimentally in 2008 and greeted enthusiastically by everyone, the tour offering has been expanded so that more visitors might take advantage of this very special experience.

Limited to 14 people to assure a personal encounter, the tour continues to highlight three aspects of Amish life --- on the farm, at work, and at home --- all within the span of three hours. The VIP Tour is unlike the regular farmlands tour which provides a basic overview of Amish life on a countryside excursion lasting 1 ½ hours. Rather, the VIP Tour allows for the close personal interaction with the Amish that many visitors seek, but few actually realize.

The first stop is at an Amish farm at milking time where an Amish dairyman explains how cows are milked and milk chilled in a bulk tank, all without electricity. Details of the daily chores involved with farming Amish-style are also shared.

The second stop highlights an Amish "cottage industry." A different "industry" is featured each evening, including an Amish gourd producer and decorator whose business grew from a source of supplementary income to a full-time vocation. Other stops might be an Amish carpet-weaver, a blacksmith, a soap maker who welcomes you into her kitchen where she demonstrates soap making in various scents and creative designs, a family that makes hand-woven baskets, and a couple that operate both a woodshop and a deer farm.

The third VIP stop is the simplest, and often the most meaningful. For the Amish, to "visit" is simply to sit and chat for a while in someone's home. Guests enter somewhat reluctantly and, while conversation with strangers may be hesitant at first, by the end of the evening it is often difficult to pull guests and hosts apart. I'm told that some visitors have become friends with their Amish hosts, exchanging Christmas cards and letters.

The difference between the VIP Tour and others out there is that the tour is not about re-creating another culture, visiting a replica Amish farm, or having people dress up and impersonate characters. It's meeting real people, one-on-one, where they live and work. For the Amish, simplicity is often the key. And this tour is simply about people getting to know each other. The stunning scenery seen along the way is ever-so-sweet icing on the cake.

An Amish gourd farm is one of the most fascinating stops on the Visit-in-Person Tour.

The Amish VIP Tours run Monday-Friday through October with departures at 5:00 pm from the Amish Experience Theater at Plain & Fancy Farm, Route 340, between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. The tour duration is approximately three hours. The price is $47.95 per person, but look on page 29 where you'll find a $3 OFF coupon for the tour. Quite a bargain!

As tours are extremely limited and most often sell out, I suggest purchasing advance tickets by calling (717) 768-8400, ext. 210, online at www.AmishExperience.com or in person at the Amish Experience Theater.

Continued from Page 44

1861, and the site at 219 East Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places. A tour of the bakery, still in operation, is unlike any other and well worth your time.

John Sutter was born in Switzerland and in 1834, fleeing creditors in Europe, arrived in New York. In time, he headed west and sailed up the Sacramento River to begin a settlement. By 1848, work was being done on a mill when some gold flakes were spotted in the water. Soon Gold Rush Fever struck and Sutter's land was overrun. Because of his need to be near Washington, D.C. while seeking reimbursement for his lost lands, the Sutters stayed one summer at the Springs Hotel in Lititz. They decided to make Lititz their home. The hotel has become the General Sutter Inn, and the Sutter home built in 1871 is across the street at 19 East Main Street.

The more you explore Lititz, the more you'll agree it is one of Amish Country's best kept secrets!

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Harry Potter in IMAX starts July 15th!
Located just off Route 501 between Lancaster and Lititz.

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MONDAY - THURSDAY • LUNCH & DINNER ONLY • 11AM-8PM
Valid Monday-Thursday with this coupon.
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Brickerville House
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Shop
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Located at
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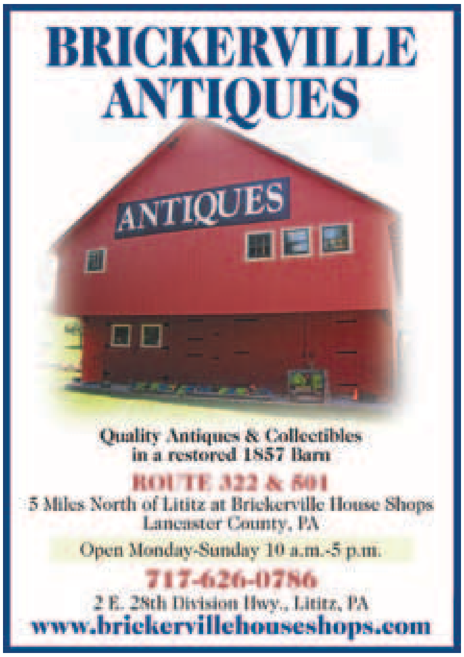

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2 E. 28th Division Hwy., Lititz, PA
www.brickervillehouseshops.com

Great Fun ON Route 501

It's not hard to find (see our map on pages 56 and 57), Route 501 that is. When you're on it, from Lancaster head north towards Lititz. Just before you pass our "bustling airport," you'll want to take note of Airport Road, which leads to our very own IMAX theater at Penn Cinema. Further north is the town of Lititz, with its unique slice of Americana well worth visiting. A little further north is High Sports where, after a round of miniature golf, you'll want to continue to follow your compass north.

In a few short miles, you'll come to the crossroads of Route 501 and 322. Turn right, east that is, and park at the Brickerville House to eat (20% coupon on this page, and great food!) and shop the specialty stores, including Brickerville Antiques in its restored 1857 barn, and the adjacent Pages in Time, with over 50,000 ways for scrapbooking fans to "scrap" their page.

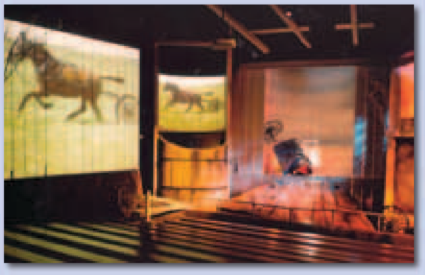
There's still gas in the tank, so either head west on Route 322 to Route 72 North where in a couple of miles you can sample some great wines at Mount Hope Estate, or, head East on Route 322, take 272 North, and in a couple miles you'll be in Adamstown, Antiques Capitol USA.

Experience The World of the Amish

the Amish Experience

Immerse Yourself in the Amish Story

WITNESS the spectacular "Jacob's Choice" told with Disney-like Special Effects in the Amish Experience Theater.



EXPLORE the Amish Country Homestead, the region's only officially designated Heritage Site Amish home.

SIT in a desk at the new Fisher Amish schoolroom furnished authentically with desks and more from an actual Amish classroom.

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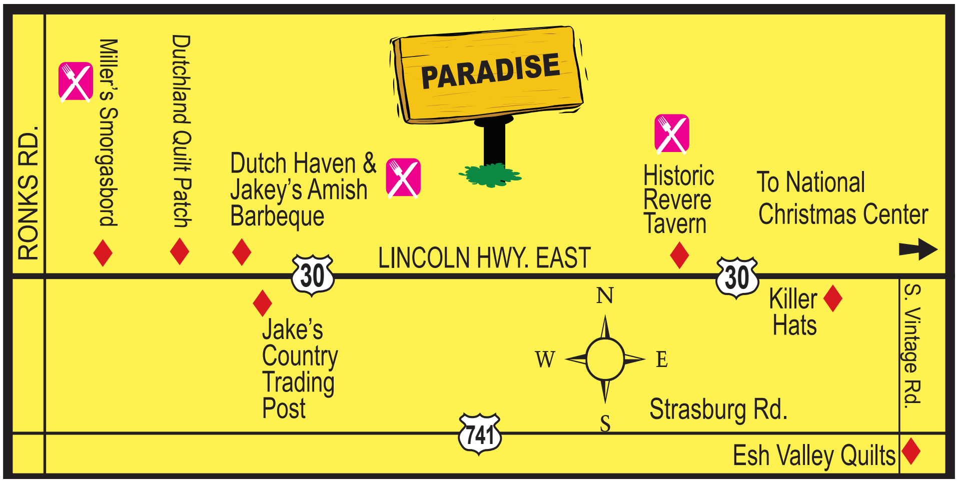

For over 250 years, visitors coming into Lancaster County from the east on Route 30 have traveled through a small town known as Paradise, just one of the many intriguing town names in Dutch Country. The story of Paradise and its first settlers traces back to Europe over 300 years ago, to the area of the Palatinate in Germany, where many Protestants had settled following the declaration of King Louis XIV that all Protestants in France would be persecuted.

With fears of invasion by the army of France looming, many of these people decided to accept the invitation to settle in William Penn's colony of Penn's Woods in the New World. By 1712, these French Huguenot settlers had secured land in Pennsylvania, in Lancaster's Pequea Valley, and were the first white people in the area, living peaceably with the local Indians.

Different sources credit different people with naming Paradise. Some say that Paradise was christened by Joshua Scott, a famous Lancaster County mapmaker. Standing in the middle of a road admiring his surroundings east of the city, he remarked that the town should be called Paradise, because its beauty made it "seem like a paradise."

The origins of Route 30, also known as the "Lincoln Highway," date back to Lancaster's Colonial days when this frontier county needed a highway to connect it with the provincial capital of Philadelphia. The road that was constructed is now Route 340, and today locals still refer to as the "Old Philadelphia Pike."

But soon it was apparent that the Philadelphia Pike was insufficient to handle the increasing traffic between Philadelphia and Lancaster. And in 1790, a commission to survey a new route between Lancaster and Philadelphia was created. Since the cost of such a road was too much for the state to undertake, the company charged with building it was given the power to demand "reasonable" tolls from users. Investors received dividends earned from the tolls collected along the nine gates of the turnpike. (As the toll was paid, the gate or "pike" was turned, hence the term "turnpike.")

The Act went on to describe the construction of the highway, which was to be a bed of

Continued on Page 50

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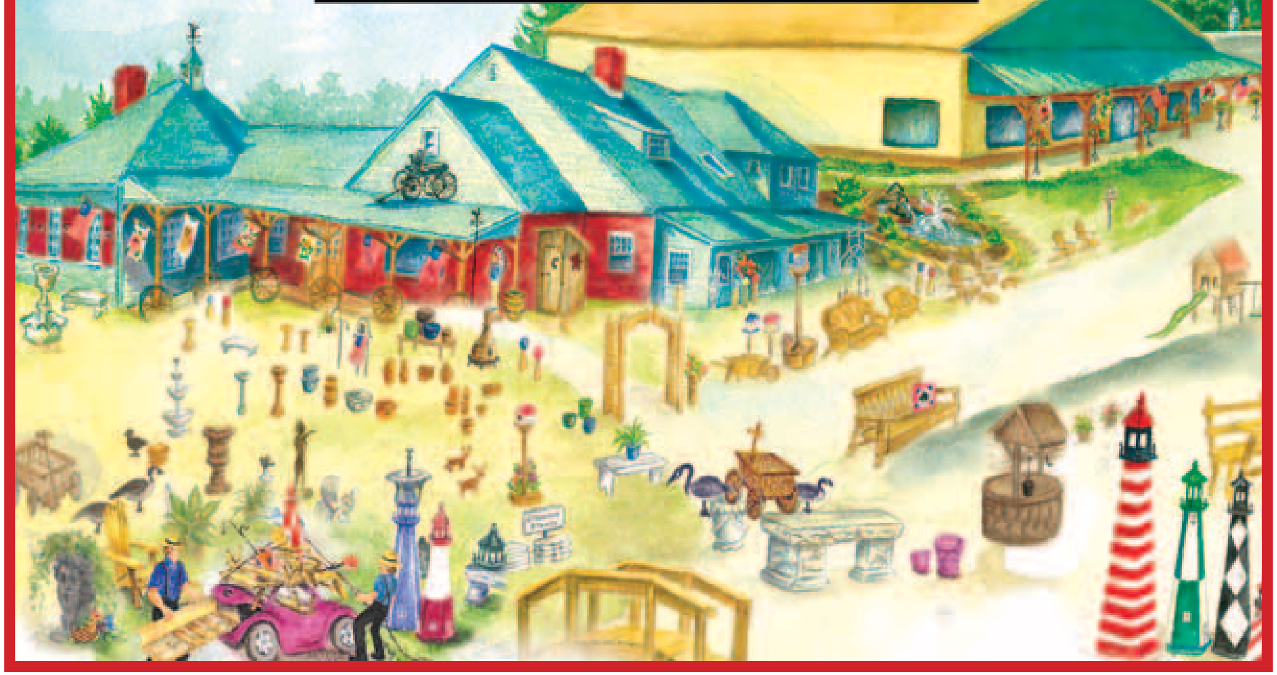

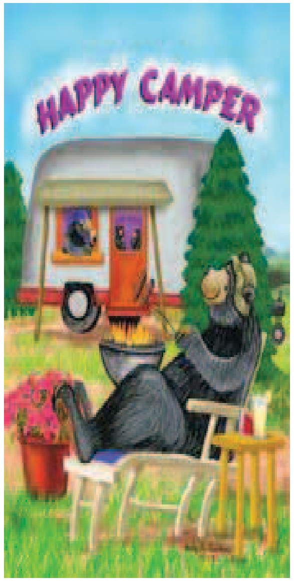

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Jake's Pottery: Large Selection of Pottery at Great Prices

Continued from Page 48

small crushed stones on top with larger stones underneath, rather than dirt, so as to prevent carriage wheels from cutting into the soil. Such a revolutionary system of road construction combined the ideas developed by a Frenchman and two Englishmen, one of whom was named John McAdam. We now take the term for paved roads or "macadam" from his last name. The turnpike officially opened in 1795, and was the first long-distance, hard surfaced road in the country.

Of course, taverns and stagecoach shops grew up along the turnpike for the weary travelers (and horses) making the trip. Of these, the Revere Tavern still proudly stands today. Dating back to 1740, the stone building that was the "stage tavern" was called the "Sign of the Spread Eagle." It catered to the more prosperous class of travelers.

Almost a century later, in 1841, the tavern would become the residence of Reverend Edward V. Buchanan and his wife Eliza Foster Buchanan. Eliza was the sister of Stephen Foster, whose immortal songs will always be a part of America. Foster not only penned some of his music at the tavern, but sent many of his manuscripts to his sister, a talented musician in her own right, for her approval. There, on the banks of the Pequea Creek, Eliza and Stephen played many of the 200 songs written by Stephen, including "My Olde Kentucky Home," Way Down Upon the Swanee River" and "Oh, Susanna."

Nowadays, the Historic Revere Tavern remains an excellent place to dine, and continues to offer lodging accommodations, just as it did hundreds of years ago. So, wherever you happen to call "paradise", we hope you can see that a little bit of our own Paradise absolutely won't do you any harm!

The Adventure at Cherry Crest Farm

by Clinton Martin

Children of all ages enjoy fun on the farm!

With this our annual Attractions issue, I always pick one of my favorite places for fun. This year my choice was an easy one -- Cherry Crest Adventure Farm. For years, families have enjoyed blowing off some steam at Cherry Crest. From the beginnings as a never-so-simple corn-maze, to the fantastic array of fun family activities you find today, Cherry Crest has become one of the top ways to share a day with family in Amish Country.

There are at least 50 different activities, but some of the highlights I consider most special are the Singing Chicken Show, which is as wacky and fun as it sounds, the Li'l Cabin Buildin' set which is like playing Lincoln Logs with Paul Bunyan, and the Straw Bale Racer, which proves there is more than one use for a burlap sack besides three-legged races!

Whether you're 5 or 55, the Cherry Crest corn maze continues to offer a challenging and fun adventure inspiring creativity and teamwork. Plan to spend an hour in what the Cherry Crest folks call "the world's most dynamic and interactive 5-acre corn maze with over 2.5 miles of paths, scenic bridges, and clues." With two Maze Masters always on hand to get you back on track, you never need worry about taking the wrong path (which you will inevitably do – several times)!

Simply put, families have long loved Amish Country for the many things to see and do together. At the top of any fun family outing should be Cherry Crest Adventure Farm. One visit and you'll know exactly what I'm talking about. From Route 30, turn south on Route 896 to Strasburg. Turn left on Route 741east for three miles. Turn left on Cherry Hill Rd where you'll find the farm is on left before the RR tracks. For more information call 717-687-6843

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From A to Z

Diversity in DUTCH COUNTRY Dining

Fried Chicken, Corn, and Noodles, a must in Amish Country

by Brad Igou

Amish Country is known for its special foods, good old home-cooking done the PA Dutch way. But savvy visitors and locals know there is a lot more to Amish Country than dried corn and whoopie pies. So let's take a look at all the ways to savor the flavors in Amish Country, from A to Z....

A is for Amish – Visitors often think there are Amish restaurants or some special Amish foods. That's not really the case, but the Amish are known for their baked goods, jams, and jellies available at local bake shops or roadside stands.

B is for Beer – Lancaster was once known for its many breweries, and "crafted beers" are making a comeback. The area boasts both commercial and small scale brewers. For me, I enjoy some of the creative items on the menus of those that have restaurants attached.

C is for Chinese – When I was growing up here, I remember the first Chinese restaurant that opened. It was quite exotic. But now we have many wonderful Chinese and Japanese restaurants and buffets to choose from. Take out or eat in?

D is for Donuts – I know that donuts are not unique to us, but we make so many interesting varieties, and we are nationally known for "Fasnachts." We even have a special day (Shrove Tuesday) during Lent when churches make thousands of them.

E is for Empanadas – You either know this Latino specialty or you don't. If you are Hispanic, have traveled south of the border, or have some Puerto Rican friends, you probably do. Our diverse cultures make for some special treats. I won't give away the Puerto Rican Bakery I love on Prince Street downtown because I want there to be a few left over for me tomorrow.

F is for Family-Style – It really is what we are most famous for… sitting at the table, with platters of food being passed around, lots of chatter and fun, and trying to save room for four or five desserts.

G is for Gourmet - Over the last few years we have seen more and more fine restaurants open, some with Zagat ratings. And you'll find these spots not just in downtown Lancaster, but "far flung" as well, so be sure to explore. Some of our smallest towns have some great places to eat.

H is for Homemade Root Beer – You'll see signs along the road for this stuff. While the bottled variety is OK, I really like it homemade. Amish are really into making it. So was my

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mother until that day the jars exploded on the back porch.

I is for Ice Cream – With all those cows, you just know we are into ice cream. Big operations, homemade varieties, even authentic Italian ice makers. Give me a scoop of vanilla for my root beer float.

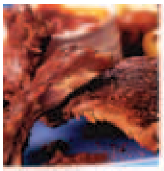
J is for Jams and Jellies – C'mon, you saw this one coming from a mile away. Canning of sweet spreads for breads is practically in our DNA, with everything from boysenberry to strawberry.

K is for Kosher – Did you know that at least one of our large dairies has a live-in rabbi to make sure the ice cream, milk, and eggs are Kosher? And a friend of ours even caters Kosher meals to many of the student groups that come to tour.

L is for Local – It's a major trend at restaurants nationally, and for many moms --- buying and eating vegetables and fruits grown locally. In Amish Country, it doesn't get any more local, whether its ears of corn, fresh strawberries, or your own meadow tea. Some of the restaurants change their menus weekly based on the freshest available…

M is for Market – This is where you go to rub shoulders with the farmers and butchers and bakers. Our Central Market is an historic landmark. Get up early. You'll also find everything from Greek pastries to Caribbean and African foods. Fabulous!

N is for Noodles – We're not just talking about our famous handmade noodles used in soups and chicken pot pie. We're also talking Italian and Thai restaurants, and traditional German dishes.



Ribs

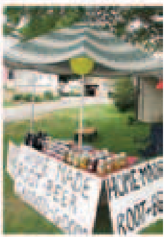
Fasnachts

Canned Goods

Empanadas

Pork & Sauerkraut

Central Market in Lancaster, one of many in Amish Country



Root Beer

Chinese Food

Chicken Pot Pie

Wine

Chicken BBQ

O is for Oysters – OK, I'm not into them, but it was my way to remind you that we aren't really far from the oceans and bays, particularly Philadelphia and Baltimore, so we also have some great seafood restaurants.

P is for Pork & Sauerkraut – Time to get back to our Germanic roots with this favorite. Popular at fire hall dinners and a MUST on New Year's Day. Don't know why, but it's tradition.

Q is for Quince – which is one of those unusual jams you can get around here. Who needs grape and orange marmalade?

R is for Ribs – Yep, we have several places that specialize in these. We may not be from the South, but we've learned that adding a little spice to your life is a good thing from time to time.

S is for Smorgasbord – We must include our smorgasbords and buffets, also legendary, along with some superb places for Sunday Brunch. They should have a warning posted at the entrance, "You WILL eat too much at this meal!"

Twisted Pretzels – OK, it was the only way I could get pretzels in since I already used the letter "P". Whether soft or hard, flavored or plain, this area is just tops in pretzel varieties, shapes, and sizes. And now I would like to cheat and throw in potato chips and the many other snack foods we make here.

U is for Unpasteurized Milk – It's quite a controversy right now, with some farmers and consumers getting in trouble over it. It was also my only alternative to Upside Down Cake.

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V is for Volunteer Fire Companies – What's that have to do with food, you ask? Then you have never been to one of our fire hall dinners or auctions. These are fundraisers, so you go and mingle with the locals, eat yourself full, and support the important work they do, and perhaps get a little dirty at a mud sale. Ronks is known for chicken corn soup, but my favorite is Witmer's ox roast, my favorite take out dinner of all time!

W is for Wine – Pennsylvania, and particularly Lancaster County, has an especially large number of wineries. If you tried to get to them all in one day, you'd run out of gas or risk DUI - never a good thing.

X is for Extra Room – When we say this, we aren't talking about lodging. We mean we have eaten so much that there is no more "room," and we wish we had a little "extra".

Y is for Yogurt – I enter this because there are some really good Indian restaurants around, and I like their unusual yogurt, curries, etc. I'm not just another "meat and potatoes" guy.

Z is for Zook's – I must give a special shout out to Zook's Homemade Chicken Pies… delicious, tender meat in a flaky crust…a meal unto itself right out of the freezer.

Important Note: I have eaten, many times, at all of our Restaurant advertisers, and, without exception I recommend them all. So, page through this issue and pick a couple to try today. I should also tell you that October is our Annual Dining Issue. Be sure to pick up your Amish Country News (or become a subscriber) to read lots, lots more about dining in Amish Country!

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Bird-in-Hand to Hershey: 30 Miles
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For most people, the name Hershey means chocolate. Visitors notice streets with names like Cocoa and Chocolate Avenues and streetlights in the shape of Hershey Kisses. The factory and town, founded by candy entrepreneur Milton S. Hershey, is now a destination all its own, and HersheyPark has become one of the top theme parks in the world.

Mr. Hershey used his millions to create a world-famous school for orphan children that to this day remains one of the great examples of American philanthropy.

When visiting Hershey, your starting point should be HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE WORLD. Did you know that Hershey kisses were first introduced in 1907, and that the Hershey plant can produce 24 million kisses in one day? Enjoy the fun on the exciting and educational chocolate-making tour ride, which has undergone an exciting renovation in 2006, and get a free sample after your trip. Remember, admission to the Chocolate World ride is FREE!

Also popular is "Hershey's Really Big 3-D Show," a fun-filled special effects show that is a comical and exciting three-part musical story kids will enjoy. And kids will love the new interactive "Hershey's Factory Works Experience," offering the family a chance to experience what working in a chocolate factory is like! Trolley tours of the town of Hershey depart from Chocolate World as well.

So, even if you've visited Hershey before, it's time to once again follow the smell of chocolate to the "Sweetest Place on Earth."

Intercourse to Adamstown: 21 Miles
Driving Time: 20 Minutes

Just a bit north of Ephrata (and south of Reading) is an area known as ANTIQUES CAPTIAL, U.S.A. The Denver / Adamstown area is bursting with antique shops. Many are even open on Sundays, making this a great destination for those trolling for bargains over the weekend. A favorite spot is SHUPP'S GROVE. This beautiful outdoor antique market is open weekends through October, and every weekend has its own theme. Their slogan is "the romance of the woods, the thrill of the hunt, and the euphoria of the 'big find." RENNINGER'S ANTIQUE &

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Lancaster to Easton: 87 miles
Driving time: 1 hour, 45 minutes

On your way to or from Lancaster, or as a special trip for the kids, don't miss the CRAYOLA FACTORY in Easton. It's a hands-on discovery center where you can learn how Crayola Crayons and Markers are made. It's a colorful, fun visitor center that allows children of all ages to unleash their creative spirit. Exhibit areas range from manufacturing to "Crayola After Dark" and the "Crayola Meltdown."

Lancaster to Kutztown: 50 Miles
Driving Time: 1 Hour

CRYSTAL CAVE, in Kutztown, was discovered in 1871. It is Pennsylvania's oldest operating underground cavern open to tourists. Crystal Cave was named for the dazzling display of shining calcium crystals formed slowly by nature through the ages. It is a great destination for the whole family, where you can pan for gemstones too!

In all directions, there are interesting spokes to travel from Lancastery hub. So spin the wheel and start exploring!

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Amish Farmland Tour...
Review by D on 11/10/10 10:51 AM
The tour was both informative and entertaining. We marveled at many things we'd never seen before - high clothes lines; home additions for grandparents; creative ways to launch businesses. The length of the tour was just right for us. We saw what we wanted without being too tired at the end of the day. Accomodations were comfortable and our guide was considerate and thorough.

SUPERSAVER TOUR ...
Review by ELISA on 4/3/11 10:21 AM
THE SUPERSAVER TOUR WAS GREAT. OUR DRIVER WAS WONDERFUL. HE HAD GREAT KNOWLEDGE OF THE AREA AND THE AMISH PEOPLE. I HAVE BEEN COMING TO LANCASTER FOR OVER 40 YEARS AND NEVER GET TIRED OF VISITING. THE FARM WE VISITED WAS ALSO WONDERFUL. GOT TO SEE THE COWS CLOSE UP INSTEAD OF FROM THE ROAD. I AM ALSO GOING TO DO THE WITNESS TOUR IN OCTOBER 2011. I DID THE FIRST ONE IN 2005 AND HAD A GREAT TIME. ITS WORTH THE MONEY. ENJOY

Great Day!...
Review by Carissa on 8/16/10 10:51am
My 13 year old son and I had a wonderful time at the Amish Experience. We did the Super Saver package and it was a great way to spend the whole day! Everyone was super nice and helpful. We learned a lot of things about the Amish way of life on the tour, and given plenty of opportunities to ask questions. Even now, a few weeks after our trip, my son talks about it all the time!

Super Saver Package April 2011...
Review by Chaps on 4/27/11 9:55PM
We came all the way from Mexico to PA for 2 weeks and definitely these Amish tours were a great experience!!!! We loved the tour into the farms, watching the people working their lands, the kids in schools, the cows and mules, the shops..... and what it makes it more enjoyable is the guide, who knows and explains very well the Amish life. Hope we can repeat this experience again.

Real Reviews from Real Visitors
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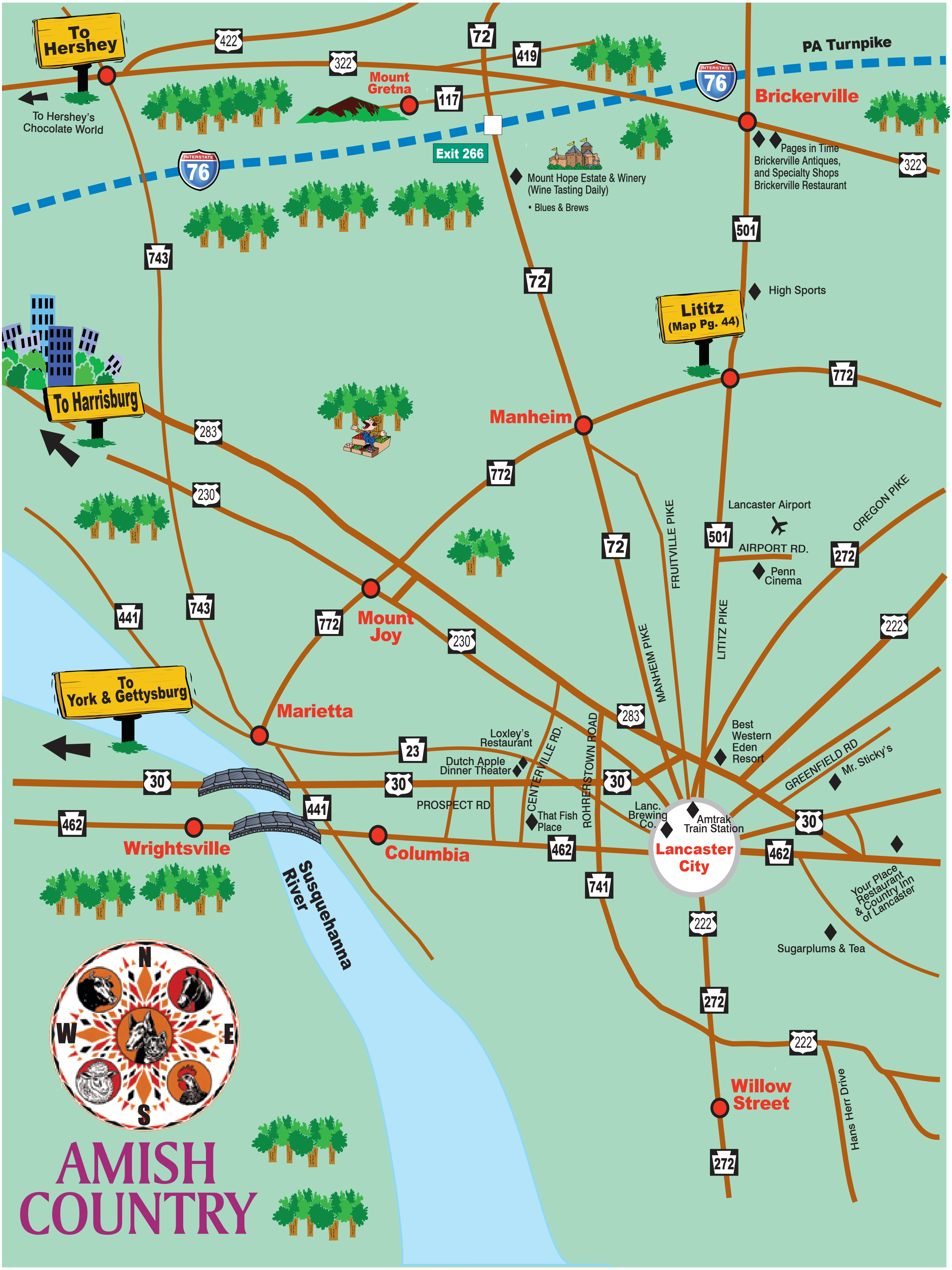
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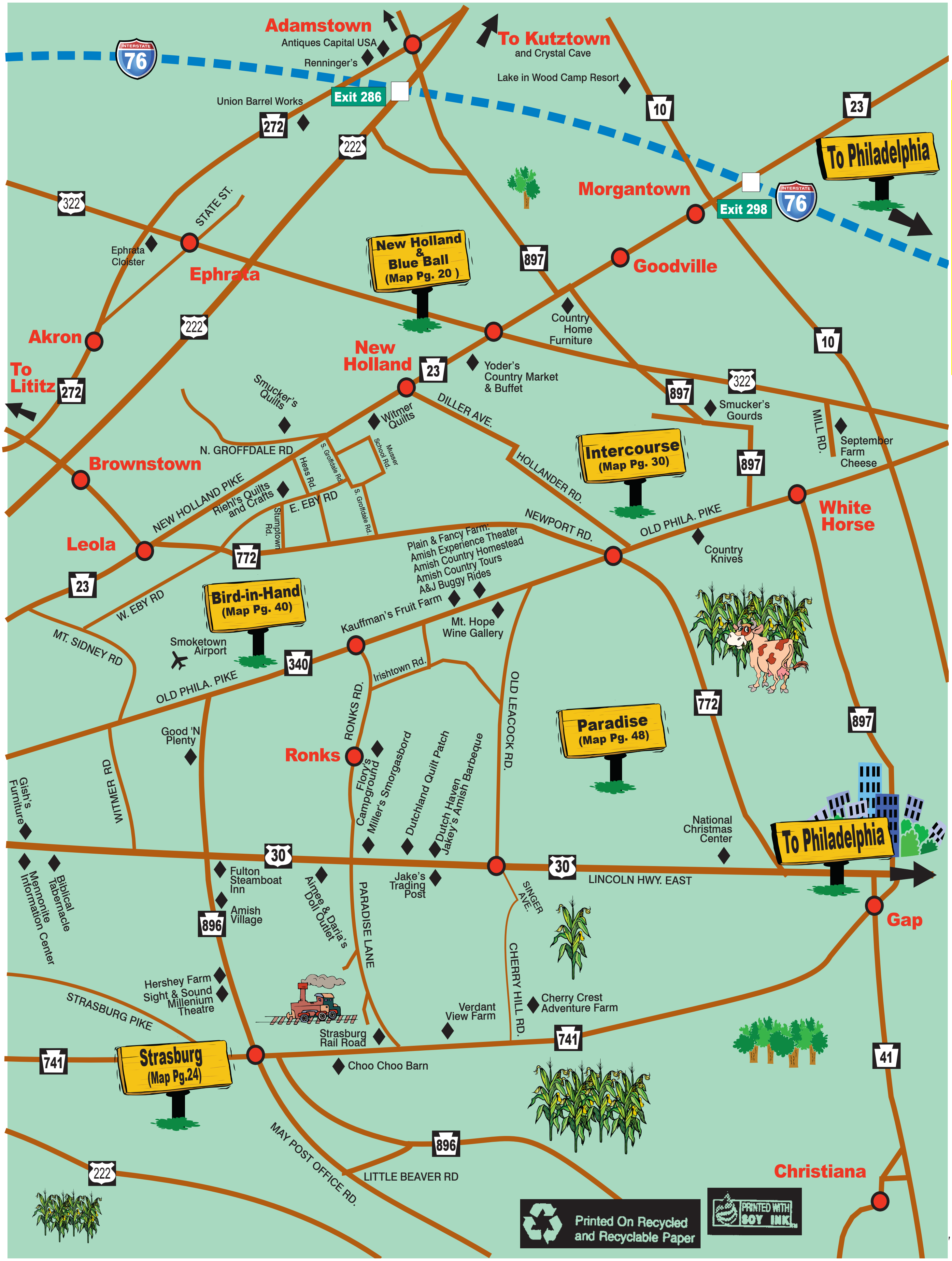

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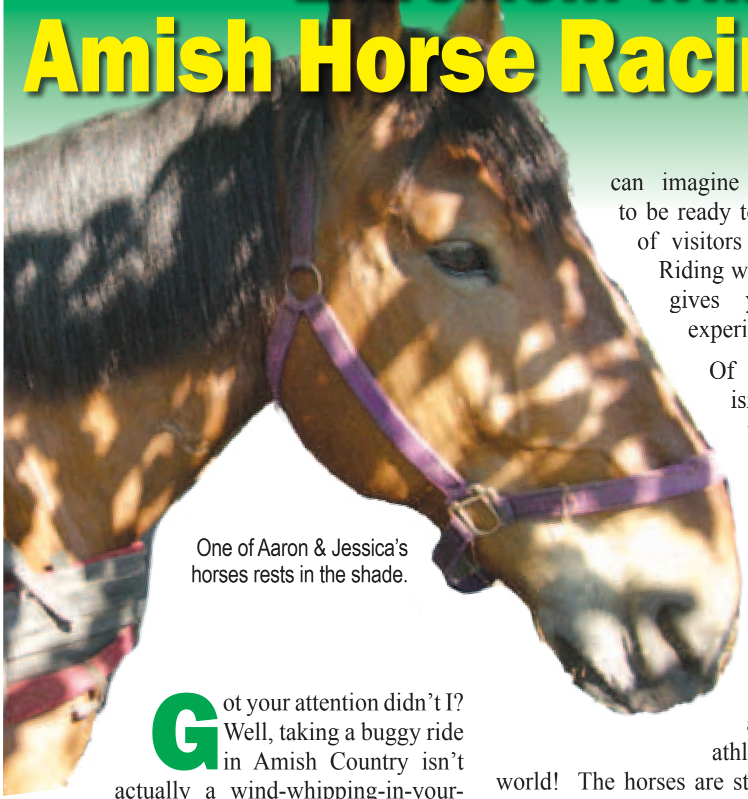
Extreme!!! White-Knuckle!!!

Amish Horse Racing at it's finest!!!

by Clinton Martin



One of Aaron & Jessica's horses rests in the shade.

Got your attention didn't I? Well, taking a buggy ride in Amish Country isn't actually a wind-whipping-in-your-face kind of experience, but don't let the "slowdown" be a "letdown!" Taking an Amish buggy ride is great family fun, and the breeze really does feel cool as you clip-clop along. Taking a buggy ride means experiencing what it is like to get around like the Amish do, and for many years now taking a buggy ride in Lancaster County has meant going to Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides.

Many visitors usually think of the one "classic" style of buggy – what would be considered the "family sedan" by most Amish families. But, there really are dozens of different types of Amish carriages. Different designs are used for different tasks, and when it comes to giving visitors an authentic Amish buggy ride, you can imagine the carriage needs to be ready to give a small group of visitors a comfortable ride. Riding with Aaron & Jessica's gives you a chance to experience an Amish SUV!

Of course, the carriage isn't the only important factor in getting around Amish-style. You've got to have a good horse too. The hard-working equine employees at Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides often seem larger-than-life, but after all, these are the athletes of the Amish world! The horses are strong and sturdy, and are well-trained to trot the same roads that we "English" traverse in our cars.

Young and old alike enjoy meeting the horses before stepping on board the carriage. Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides leave from a nice grove of shade trees, surrounding a real covered bridge, on the western side of Plain & Fancy Farm, where on the eastern end, you'll find the Amish Experience Theater. There is even a nice picnic area for visitors to enjoy while waiting for their turn. Usually, the wait is only about 5-10 minutes, as carriages depart continuously every few minutes.

When you arrive, you'll be asked to choose a ride. Yes, there is more than just one type of ride. For a little introduction into the world of horse-drawn travel, you can go with the "cookie run" which takes about 20 minutes or so. This includes a brief stop at an Amish farm where, you guessed it, you can buy a couple of home-made cookies or other treats to snack on.

Open-sided wagons offer visitors pristine sight-seeing views.

Longer, more interactive rides are also available to visitors who wish to get a more in-depth experience, so ask about the options when you arrive. No reservations are necessary. Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides accepts cash, but tickets can be purchased on a credit card in the restaurant at Plain & Fancy Farm.

Whichever option you choose, you'll be sure to understand more about why the Amish live the way they do, even if only by slowing down the pace a little, and seeing more of the scenery than you can take in when whizzing around in a car.

For more information call 717-768-8828 or go online to www.amishbuggyrides.com.

Listen to the clip-clop echo in the covered bridge.

When is it my turn to pull the carriage?

Our Advertisers

A "●" denotes a coupon and (SUN) denotes open on Sundays

Attractions

AARON & JESSICA'S BUGGY RIDES ● (SUN) ... 42
Plain & Fancy Farm, Rt. 340, between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. 717-768-8828. Operated by Amish. Stop at a real Amish farm. All in the country - 40 mile view. Open daily. amishbuggyrides.com

AMISH COUNTRY HOMESTEAD ● (SUN)....... 38, 47
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AMISH COUNTRY TOURS ● (SUN).............. 29, 55
Route 340, at Plain & Fancy Farm. 717-768-8400. Enjoy 90-Minute back road guided Amish farmland tours at 10am, 12:30pm & 2:30pm (Mon.-Sat.) and 11am & 1:30pm only Sunday. amishexperience.com

AMISH EXPERIENCE F/X THEATER ● (SUN). 38, 47
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AMISH VILLAGE ● (SUN) 24
199 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks, PA 17572. 717-687-8511. On Rt. 896 between Rt. 30 and Strasburg, the 10-acre village includes the 1840 Amish farmhouse, one-room school, smokehouse, crafts shop, and animals. theamishvillage.net

BIBLICAL TABERNACLE 12
2209 Millstream Rd., Lancaster PA 17602, 717-299-0954. Full-scale reproduction of Moses' Tabernacle, seen only by guided 45 minute lecture tour.
mennoniteinfoctr.com

CHERRY CREST ADVENTURE FARM 8
150 Cherry Hill Rd., Ronks PA, 17572. 717-687-6843 or 866-546-1799. Join over a million adventurers. 50 farm-fun activities for everyone! May – October. CherryCrestAdventureFarm.com.

CHOO CHOO BARN, INC (SUN)......................... 25
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choochoobarn.com

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dutchapple.com

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GHOST TOURS OF LANCASTER (SUN) 24
Tours depart from 11 E. Main Street (Merenda Zug Cafe), Strasburg, PA 17679. 717-687-6687. Discover the other side of Lancaster's history on this candlelight walking tour. Also downtown Lancaster ghost tours. For all ages. ghosttour.com

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hersheyschocolateworld.com

HIGH SPORTS (SUN) 44
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INTERCOURSE PRETZEL FACTORY 33
3614 Old Phila. Pike (Cross Keys), Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-3432. Learn how old-fashioned pretzels are made by hand on our FREE tour and twist your own. IntercoursePretzelFactory.com

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MENNONITE INFORMATION CENTER 12
2209 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602, 717-299-0954. Showing "Who Are the Amish" Step-on Guides for Amish Country tours, open Mon-Sat 8am-5pm. mennoniteinfoctr.com

MOUNT HOPE ESTATE & WINERY ● (SUN) 52
2775 Lebanon Road (Rt. 72 north at Turnpike Exit 266), Manheim, PA 17545. 717-665-7021. Home of the PA Renaissance Faire. Complimentary wine tasting. Mon-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5. parenfaire.com

NATIONAL CANAL MUSEUM 55
30 Centre Square, Easton PA, 18042. 610-559-6613. Hands-on exhibits, and mule-drawn canal boat rides with costumed interpreters in season (June-August). National Award for Visitor Experience. canals.org.

NATIONAL CHRISTMAS CENTER FAMILY ATTRACTION AND MUSEUM (SUN).................. 48
3427 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 30) Paradise, PA 17562, 717-442-7950. Tour life-sized, indoor exhibits and celebrate Christmas memories, history & traditions.
NationalChristmasCenter.com

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541 Airport Road, Lititz PA, 17543. 717-626-7720.
First rate movies in a first class theater. Lancaster County's only IMAX theater. See the latest movies in the area's spectacular independently owned cinema. penncinema.com.

SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE ● 11
300 Hartman Bridge Road (Rt. 896, south of Rt. 30), Strasburg, PA 17579. 800-377-1277. Inspiring stories. Spectacular shows. Don't miss the amazing original production, JOSEPH, in its final showings! www.sight-sound.com

STRASBURG RAIL ROAD (SUN)........................ 25
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farmlandfun.com

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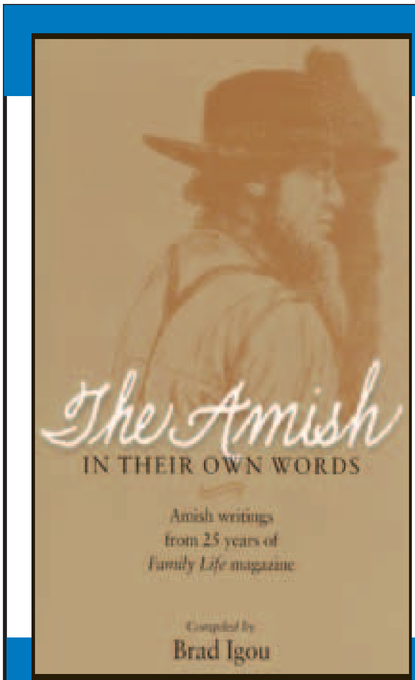

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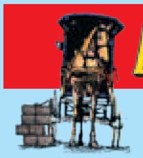

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157 North Star Rd., Strasburg. Visit an Amish farm while shopping for beautiful quilted items including quilts, wall hangings, aprons, handbags, pillows, and more.

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206 N. Star Rd., off Rt. 896, Strasburg. Shop in the basement of an Amish home for beautiful quilts & wood crafts. Open 8-7, closed Sunday.

LEACOCK COLEMAN CENTER ●........................34
89 Old Leacock Road, Ronks PA, 17572. 717-768-7174. Campfire Supplies! Pie Irons, Hot Dog Forks, Marshmallow Roasters, Tripods, Campfire Grills, Fire starters, and more! More than just for vacations, like enjoying a quiet evening at home in the back yard or your patio! See the area's largest selection of old-fashioned oil lamps. leacockcolemancenter.com.

LENA'S VICTORIAN LUXURIES........................40
2707 Old Phila. Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505 (across from Farmers Market, Rt. 340). 717-509-1983. Lots of jewelry, lace, china, antique furniture, home décor, and much more. Open Mon – Sat.

MOUNT HOPE WINE GALLERY ● (SUN)...........32
3174 Old Phila. Pike (Rt. 340), Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-7194. Formal wine tastings and sales. Customized gift baskets available. Mon.-Sat. 10-6; Sun. 11-6. parenfaire.com

OLD CANDLE BARN..36
Box 10, 3551 Old Philadelphia Pike, Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-8926. Stop in the barn that is just filled to the rafters with country furnishings that will turn your house into a home. oldcandlebarn.com

OLD COUNTRY STORE ●..................................35
3510 Old phila. Pk., Route 340, Intercourse PA. 717-768-7101. Landmark store featuring local crafts and quilts. Extensive Fabric Center & Quilt Museum. theoldcountrystore.com

Deadline: **December 31st, 2011**

Calling All Photographers!

2011 Amish Country News Photo Contest

Ours is one of the most photographed areas in the world. With so much beauty and variety around us, it's no wonder! If you think you've got a great photo, why not send it to us? The winner will recieve free tour and attraction tickets. In addition, you will see your photo in the pages of *Amish Country News!* Other prizes will also go to the first, second, and third runners-up.

All submitted photos become the property of *Amish Country News* and the Amish Experience. Photos may also be used in upcoming issues, in other publications, and/or for other promotional purposes.

Photos will be judged on quality, color, subject matter, etc. Keep in mind that these photos are for publication, cannot be returned, and should depict a scene, aspect, event, or activity typical to Lancaster or the Pennsylvania Dutch Country region.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: December 31st, 2011

We will accept photos via email, and request that no more than 10 photos by the same person be submitted, so pick your best! Each photo submitted should contain the name, address, phone # and email address of the photographer, so they can be contacted. Any details on the location, date, or subject matter of the photograph should be included.

To enter, send photos in .jpg or .tiff format to: editor@amishnews.com
(Please put "2011 photo contest" in the subject line)

OUTBACK TOYS 44
101 W. Lincoln Ave, Lititz PA, 17543. 888-414-4705. The largest selection of farm toys in the country. Thousands of toys are in stock right now at our store. Kids and Collectors use Outback Toys as their best source for farm toys. outbacktoystore.com.

PAGES IN TIME ● 46
16 E.28th Division Hwy. (Rt.322E.),Lititz,PA 17543.717-625-4455.Scrap your trip! Great selection of scrapbook and card making supplies! Tues-Fri. 10-5,Sat. 10-4. MC/Visa/Discover.

RENNINGER'S ANTIQUE MARKET (SUN)..........54
2500 N. Reading Rd., Denver, PA 17517. (717) 336-2177. Renninger's is the #1 Antiques Market in Adamstown. Selling and buying quality antiques. Open Sundays at 7:30 AM. We have an indoor and outdoor marketplace, with plenty of parking.

RIEHL'S QUILTS & CRAFTS ●..........................43
247 Eby Rd. Take Rt. 340 to 772 W, turn right onto Stumptown and right onto Eby. 717-656-0697, 800-957-7105. Come visit this Amish dairy farm & see our large display of quilts & crafts. Open 8-5:30. Call for catalog. riehlsamishquilts.com

RUTHIE'S TEE COMPANY.................................43
2687 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird In Hand, PA 17505. 717-392-4848. Unique selection of apparel. Bears, plush, and great gifts. Open Mon-Sat. 9-5. Ruthiesteeco.com

SAUDER'S FABRICS 34
681 S. Muddy Creek Rd. Denver, PA 17517. 717-336-2664. Thousands of bolts of fabric, sewing and quilt supplies. We are worth the trip. A favorite of locals and visitors. zandsfabrics.com

SEPTEMBER FARM CHEESE...............................23
460 Mill Road, Honey Brook PA, 19344. 610-273-3552. Award-winning cheeses made right on our own dairy farm. Taste our wonderful cheese while you shop our clean and welcoming store. See cheese being made. septemberfarmcheese.com.

SHUPP'S GROVE ANTIQUE MARKET (SUN).......54
PO Box 892, Adamstown, PA 19501. 717-484-4115. From Lancaster: Rt. 222 N to Rt. 272 N, south 1 mi. on Rt. 897. Romance of the woods, thrill of the hunt, euphoria of the "Big Find!" shuppsgrove.com

SMUCKERS GOURDS 33
317 Springville Road (Route 897), Kinzers, PA 17535. Only 1-1/2 miles north of Route 340. (717)354-6118. Largest gourd farm in the region. Natural and pre-washed for Crafters. Beautifully hand painted gifts. Custom orders welcome.

SMUCKER'S QUILTS...20
117 N. Groffdale Rd., New Holland, PA 17557. 717-656-8730. Shop located on the peaceful side of Lancaster on an Amish farm, over 100 quilts and other handcrafts. Search for us at amishnews.com

THAT FISH PLACE/THAT PET PLACE ● (SUN)..14
237 Centerville Road, Lancaster, PA 17603, 717-299-5691. The world's largest pet store! 1,000's of fish, pets, & supplies. Free sting ray touch tank. Mon-Sat 9-9, Sun 10-6. thatpetplace.com

WITMER QUILT SHOP......................................22
1070 West Main St., New Holland, PA 17557. 717-656-9526. Over 100 new quilts, over 100 antique quilts in stock! All different. Also, wall-hangers and pillows. Open Mon-Sat. Search for us at amishnews.com

ZOOK'S FABRICS 34
3535 Old Philadelphia Pike (PO Box 514), Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-8153. Huge selection of fabric here on Main Street in Intercourse and at Sauder's Fabrics for quilting, dress-making, sewing, supplies. zandsfabrics.com

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PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE

The Strawberry Girl

by Brad Igou

I already had a "message" written for this issue, but tonight on the way home something happened. It was so simple and insignificant, that I was surprised it was still lingering in my mind a few hours later. So I decided I should figure out why, and then I decided to share it with you….

When you live in Amish Country, it is always fun to stop on the way home at a farmstand for some baked goods, vegetables, corn, eggs, fruit, etc. In the beginning of June, as I write this, I was in search of strawberries.

Last week, I had gotten some quarts of homegrown berries. They were nice and big, but a little tart. I wanted those really delicious sweet ones. My mother had asked me to look for some more on the way home, Well, there still is no "strawberry app" for the iPhone, so I was on my own.

As I left work on Route 340, I traveled up North Harvest Road to Newport Road to 772 West to Stumptown Road. None of the places I drove by had strawberries. As I headed over toward Costco to get gas, I knew of one other farmstand and kept my fingers crossed. As I neared the hand-painted sign, I saw the words…

Straw

Berries

Now the question was whether there would be any left at 6:00pm.

It had been an unusually hot day. My car showed the current temperature outside as 95 degrees, although the radio reported it felt more like 100. I drove down the lane to the little shed and opened the car door, letting the air conditioner running.

I stepped inside the shed and there, on the second shelf on my left, was ONE pint box of strawberries. They were very small, but had a deep, dark red color. The price was $2.35. Then I realized the smallest bill I had was $10. I didn't see anyone around or a place to make change. I started looking around the shed to see what else I might buy, but suddenly an Amish girl appeared through a back door.

She appeared to be around 12 or 13 years old. She gave me a warm smile as I handed over my money and got my change.

"I guess you're trying to stay cool today," she said.

"That's probably easier for me than it is for you," I replied.

"It got up to 114 degrees today," she noted. That seemed an exaggeration, but perhaps a thermometer in the sun might have pushed the mercury in that direction.

As I turned to leave, she said, "You try and stay cool now." And through the entire conversation, she kept this sweet smile on her face.

I tried to envision what her day had been like, as opposed to mine in an air-conditioned office. For all I knew, she may have been the one who picked the strawberries. If there was any indication that she was unhappy being Amish, dealing with all that hot weather and work, it certainly never showed on her face. I felt a tad ashamed as I remembered my internal grumbling about the hot weather as I drove in my comfortable 70-degree temperature controlled vehicle.

I recalled an article I once read concerning Amish children who are "deprived" of the many worldly things other children have. Part of an Amishman's response was that "instead of all manner of public entertainment, our children find enjoyment in nature on the farm. Above all, they enjoy learning by doing. Being deprived of many of the pleasures of this world is a spiritual blessing. It seems our children are just as happy as those who are deprived of nothing."

When I got home, my mother remarked on how small these strawberries were. I noted that this was the only box I had found. And then we tasted them….

Yep, they were the sweetest, best strawberries we had so far. It almost tasted like they had a light dusting of sugar. But for me, perhaps, they were just a bit sweeter because of my brief conversation with the "strawberry girl."

July Food Fest

A Simply Irresistible Celebration of 14 Years of Canning!

Come join the July Food Fest celebration at Intercourse Canning Company.
Stop in during the entire month to find great sale prices and themed tasting events.

Salsa Saturday

Saturday, July 2 from 10:30am-3:00pm

You'll enjoy a taste of our delicious Amish 7/8/9/10 Layer Dip and Salsa Pizza. Dip a corn chip into an amazing sampling of our salsas including Apple, Peach, Corn, Pineapple Mango, Fruit, and more.

Hot Dog Bash

Saturday, July 9 from 10:30am-3:00pm

We've got more toppings for your $2.00 hot dog than you can count! Sink your teeth into a $2.75 chili dog with our award winning chili recipe! Choose from Amish Sweet Mustard, Hot Horseradish Mustard, Wing Flappin' Mustard, Sauerkraut, Smokey Hot Pepper & Onion Relish, Green Tomato Relish, Southern Chow Chow, pickles, and more.

In a Pickle? Take a Dip!

Saturday, July 16 from 10:30am-3:00pm

Crunch into our wide assortment of tasty pickles, like Kosher Style Pickles, Garlic Dill Pickles, Grammy Betty's Banana Pickles, Molly's Sweet Pickles, and more. Don't miss our wide variety of gourmet dip mixes, and take home yummy recipes for each selection.

Lancaster County Picnic Day

Saturday, July 23 from 10:30am-3:00pm

Planning your own summer picnics? Visit Intercourse Canning Company and pick up delicious ideas that will give your indoor or outdoor picnics some punch. Our picnic tasting event will feature several styles of barbeque sauces, pickles, beets, salsas, gourmet dip mixes, and more!

Annual Chicken BBQ

Saturday, July 30 from 10:30am-3:00pm

Free with a $40 purchase. Receive a BBQ chicken dinner, side salad, pickle, and chips. Taste all of our BBQ sauces, including Apple Butter BBQ Sauce, Cranberry BBQ Sauce, and Hickory Smoked BBQ Sauce. Our Barn Raisin' Wing Sauce is a perfect alternative for any BBQ recipe. Meals may be purchased for $5.50 each or $18.00 for a family meal, which serves 4.

Daily Tastings!

We're sampling lots of freshly canned goodies everyday! See our coupon on page 31.

Find us on:

APRIL–DECEMBER
Mon.-Sat. 9:30am-5:00pm
Sunday 10:00am-4:00pm

JANUARY–MARCH
Mon.-Sat. 10:00am-4:00pm,
Closed Sunday

Intercourse Canning Company

3612 East Newport Road | Rt. 772 East | Intercourse, PA 17543
Next to Best Western | 717-768-0156 | www.intercoursecanning.com

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Daily presentations and
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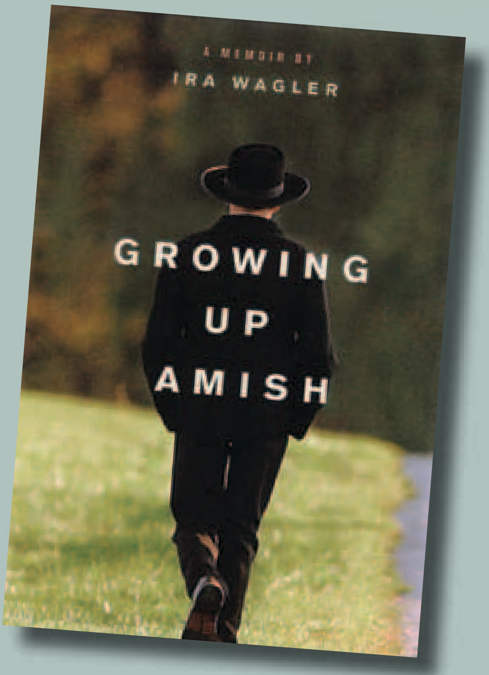
For anyone who's ever wondered about the road not taken…

A Rare Insider's Look at the Popular, yet Mysterious Amish Culture



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Growing Up Amish is the true story of one man's quest to discover who he is and where he belongs. Readers will laugh, cry, and be inspired by this charming yet poignant coming-of-age story set against the backdrop of one of the most enigmatic cultures in America today—the Old Order Amish.

Available online and at your local bookstore.

TYNDALE

GrowingUpAmishBook.com